

天下神茶

禹枫

[illegible]

Chapter 1: The Fool Young Master

“Finally, Du Clan is recruiting guards.”

“Du Clan is recruiting twenty guards with minimum requirements are sixteen years of age and physically strong.”

“A Du Clan guard is paid ten xuanbi^[1] every month whereas a Captain Guard is paid fifty xuanbi, much higher compared to the other families’ ah.”

“This is a good opportunity, if selected as a Du Clan’s guard, there might be a chance to learn Du Clan’s martial skills if we performed well.

Between the lively streets of Stone City, several burly men with imposing air dressed in brilliant clothing, hanging a big red notice on the wall, suddenly a crowd gathered around them, whispering amongst themselves.

The leader of the men was muscular man saddling on a handsome steed deep red in color, a pair of twin horns on its head. Looking at the gathered crowd the leader said:” Tomorrow morning, Du Clan will be conducting an open tryout to recruit new guards, as long as someone can take three moves from the Du Clan direct descendent^[2] juniors and remain undefeated can become a guard. If able to defeat or draw, is eligible for the position Captain Guard. Only twenty places on a first come first served.”

The man’s sharp eyes reveal a trace of pride and arrogance for Du Clan’s has quite a standing in Stone City, and as part of Du Clan, it makes them feel proud.

With the words said, the several people behind the muscular man hopped on their horses in neat and tidy action and sped away side by side in parallel lines.

“The one riding the Blood-sweat Dragon Horse^[3] is Du Clan’s Deputy Commander, Du Qi. According to rumors, he is a Xiantian Warrior.”

“If my repair is also at Xiantian level, then within the walls of Stone City I can even walk sideway, let’s see who still dares to find trouble with me.

“You better pray that you’ll do well tomorrow and is selected as one of Du Clan’s guard. Du Clan juniors’ though young but are quite strong, not many people can withstand three moves from them. Xiantian level cultivation? You’re dreaming, not anyone can achieve that.”

“Hey hey, tomorrow I’ll surely be selected as Du Clan’s guard.”

Within the crowd, one unshaven, slightly dark skin, tall man smiled mysteriously in front of his several partners, lowered his voice and said: “Let me tell you guys a secret, as long as you can become the Captain Guard, you can practice some of the Du Clan’s martial art skills and in the future the will be an opportunity to be fully integrated into Du Clan.”

“Blackie, you’re not lying to us? Captain Guard can practice Du Clan’s martial arts skills.” The tall guy’s several companions were shocked then turned envious.

The tall man called Blackie boldly guaranteed and said: “I have a distant relative who is part of Du Clan, you think I’ll need to lie.”

“You actually have relatives inside Du Clan then tomorrow you’ll surely be selected.” Some people around who heard that looked at Blackie, eyes shimmered with envy.

The news of Du Clan recruiting guards attracted the attention of many as the new force that emerged within the city in recent years yet ranked amongst the first five families of Stone City naturally their every move is being observed by many.

Dusk, thick heavy clouds in the sky shrouded the city, near the horizon the sun’s smoldering like a fireball, strips of crimson splendor seeped through the gaps in the clouds falling on the mountains.

Stone City is close to Wild Beast Mountains, located at the border of the empire, often experiencing beast tides. With the daily struggle for survival is one of the reason why the locals raised in Stone City all practices martial arts and have exceptionally sturdy physique, especially the five big families which are considered old martial families.

“Deng Deng!”

Several horses galloped at high speed causing dust to swirl in the streets, leading the group on the Blood-sweat Dragon Horse up front is Deputy Commander of Du Clan, Du Qi.

Behind Du Qi, a big fellow tilted his head to check the weather, then turned around and said to the several mates behind him: “The thirteenth day, dare to bet five xuanbi if that fool young master is still there?”

“That fool seemed increasingly silly recently, it is very likely that he’s still there, I bet he is.”

“It’s already thirteen days past, that fool should be gone, the previous record was only ten days, I bet he’s gone.”

Five xuanbi is an ordinary guard’s half month wage which tugged the heartstrings of the several men. Evidently, this is not the first time bets are placed with each person taking out five xuanbi and passing to the hands of the first burly man.

“Pay attention to your attitudes, although that person is not favored by the family and his behavior rather strange but don’t say I did not warn you, he is, after all, a Du Clan’s young master, the master of all of you. If one day you get into trouble because of this, I will not be able to save you.” Du Qi glared severely at the several men.

Du Qi’s sharp gaze generated fear across the first burly man eyes, then smiling sheepishly he said: “Deputy Commander, now the whole of Du Clan, even the entire Stone City calls him a fool behind his back, not to mention he has always been a waste and a fool ah, so even if we refer to him as such amongst us private there’s nothing wrong with it.”

“Having said that, Master after all is Master, no matter how much of a waste or fool he is, it is still Du family’s blood running through his veins, understand your own position or bound to suffer in the future.” Du Qi stared at them fiercely.

“Understand, Deputy Commander.” Immediately, the several guards awkwardly nodded, they of course understood the reasoning in Deputy

Commander's words.

Seeing this Du Qi's face somewhat eased, then glanced back at the first burly man and said: "Five xuanbi right, I also bet on five xuanbi that he is still there."

"Haha, Deputy Commander also placed a bet."

Sensing the tense atmosphere has eased somewhat, they began to accelerate, curious to know if the said Du young master is still there.

One of Stone City's big five families, in Du Clan's compound stands grand architectures, which makes the barren hill at the side of the main door particularly eye-catching.

On that barren hill, oddly, were devoid of any grass or plants, birds do not land on it, even snakes and rats does not pass through, just like an ominous land of death, that Du Clan people think that place is inauspicious, and shuns it.

According to rumors Du Clan's main door used to face that barren hill but due to its ominous presence, about a dozen years ago the Du Clan shifted the main entrance's direction, and from then onwards Du Clan which was a third-level family began to rise in Stone City which further strengthened the belief that barren hill is an ominous land and no one dares to get close to.

On the death-like hill, barren and lifeless, just sands and pebbles on the ground. There is a stone tablet protruding from the ground and the remaining buried underneath.

The top part is a full thirty feet high its whole surface mottled unknown for how many years it has existed at the very least no one in Du Clan knows. Hearsay the stone tablet has been there since ancestors' time, probably due to the long years small cracks and intricate fine lines cover the surface.

No one in Du Clan is interested in the stone tablet especially when the stone tablet located on the barren hill. The previous generation Elders of the family researched the stone tablet and unquestionably concluded it as an ordinary stone.

The one thing extraordinary about the stone tablet is, during a violent storm more than a decade ago, the infamous Du Clan's young master Du Shaofu stood before that stone tablet in a daze. A streak of lightning strike the stone tablet,

which resulted in Du Shaofu who is in front of it fell into a coma for three days and three nights whereas the stone was fine without any damage whatsoever.

“Damn, that idiotit is already the thirteenth day ah, why is he still there.”

Lost two weeks wages, the remaining days of the month will be difficult when that time comes loan me some living expenses.”

Sunset, before Du Clan’s main entrance several burly men looked at the distant barren hill where a slender figure of a youth seen standing before the stone tablet in a daze.

Who could have known this time the teenager referred to as ‘the fool’ would have broken the previous record, standing in front of the stone tablet without moving or resting for thirteen days straight.

“Let’s go, it’s getting dark, tomorrow’s there will be a lot of young miss and young master sparring in the guards’ tryout, there shouldn’t have any mishaps happening.

Du Qi retracts his gaze from the barren stone tablet and sighs inwardly, the guards’ tryout tomorrow, in fact, is also an opportunity for the Du Clan’s juniors to gauge the level of their cultivation, killing two birds with one stone however these are irrelevant to the youth on the barren hill. Although raised as Du Clan young master however tomorrow’s tryout does not concern him, probably it never will and this is the difference.

“It has been thirteen days now, but the fool’s still standing over there, his condition must be getting worse.”

It is said the family searched many famous doctors to cure the fool, alas none have an effect, maybe there really is no cure for him. Maidservants can be seen glancing towards the barren hill from time to time, accompanied by a slight pity for this young master, none would have imagined he’ll turn into a fool.”

Dusk gradually took over by darkness, leaving only a faint blush where the sun’s setting, with the last source of glow disappeared, the world dimmed.

Before the stone tablet, a purple-robed youth sat cross-legged, about fifteen or sixteen years of age, face slightly more mature compared his peers with a trace of resolute and fortitude, thick eyebrows above his closed eyes.

This youth's name is Du Shaofu, with a pleasant face, unless one originates from Stone City, it is hard to imagine why anyone would call him a fool.

Twinkling softly in the night sky stars gradually emerges as a white crescent moon hanging in the depths of the sky, like a blade blooms a bright white radiance.

Deep into the night, the entire Du Clan in deep slumber, no one's paying attention to the young man on the barren hill. Ancient stone tablet stands in the moonlight's shadow giving an eerie feeling.

“Boom!”

Abruptly, on that ancient stone tablet, faint glow radiated within the complex cracked lines and grooves. The lines continued to crack as the whole barren hill shakes slightly, if there's anyone around to witness this, they would be shocked agape.

“Ka Ka.”

Finally, as the ancient stone tablet glowed increasingly brighter, more and more cracks appeared from within and a bright curtain of light wraps around Du Shaofu's body, the stone tablet suddenly crumbled into a pile of gravel heaped upon the barren hill.

“Chi Chi!”

When the glow of light disappeared, Du Shaofu opened his eyes and twin rays shot out like lightning in the darkness, an ancient atmosphere swept out from that lean body, causing the surrounding space to ripple slightly.

“Hu~!”

Spitting out foul qi through the mouth, Du Shaofu broke into a faint smile, sighing gently and said: “! Ten years' time, finally comprehended the first style.

Notes:

1. Xuanbi: Currency term.
2. Direct/main descendant: Bloodline of the Patriarch and sibling(s) of same

parentage is referred to as such, where side family/branches are the consists of the relatives to the main bloodline

3. Blood-sweat Dragon Horse (Han Xue Jiao Ma) – named as such due to the horse when push to the limit, bleeds sweat the color of blood

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Chapter 02: Challenge

The silver light of dawn washed the sky, shining down on the city.

In front of Du Clan's main entrance, a large crowd had been gathering since early morning. The air buzzed with excitement, nosy neighbors converging to join in the fun. Today the Du Clan's is holding a guards' tryout and there's already a long queue of people in front of the stage, each one roaring to go.

Even those not participating came to watch, after all, this type of lively event is rare.

Many of the clan members were present at the main entrance, apart from them there are many patrolling guards around deterring anyone that's looking for trouble.

"Isn't that Du Clan's fool young master? Still like an idiot on that barren hill."

"How strange, that stone tablet is not there anymore."

Onlookers crowded outside Du Clan's main entrance many of them looked at the distant barren hill through the side door. On that barren hill, a purple robe youth seemed to be fiddling with something in his hands. Residents within the city all know that apart from the infamous fool young master of the Du Clan, there won't be a second person on that barren hill.

These ten years' time, the nicknamed fool and Young Master Du Shaofu goes hand-in-hand, it been well-known all around and is a staple topic for gossip among Stone City folks.

Talking about Du Shaofu – a young master of the Du Clan, which in Stone City are counted as having a privileged background. Unfortunately when he tested for a martial pulse at six, it was determined his veins unable to cultivate.

In this world where affluence and respect relate directly to strength, the despair of not being able to practice martial arts cannot be imagined. However, with Du Clan's prestige in Stone City, though unable to practice martial arts, living a normal life is not an issue.

But making matters worse, after the test result were made known, young master Du's mentality was unstable, somehow ended up in front of the stone tablet on the barren hill in the midst of a violent storm. Lightning strikes the stone tablet and the poor young master who was right in front suffered an unexpected misfortune went into a coma for three days and three nights.

Since then, the young master often stands before that stone tablet. In the beginning, it was only for a few hours, as time passes the duration gradually began getting longer and longer, till there's a crazed look in his eyes, acting weird, and sometimes even making manic gestures.

The healers Du Clan hire to heal him none has any effects whatsoever, towards the end they can only give up.

In the span of ten years, the nickname 'fool young master' spread from the Du Clan's compound to the entire Stone City, everyone knows amongst the Du juniors there's a fool young master.

"If Du Clan's juniors are like him, then today will be so much easier."

An unshaven, slightly dark skin, a tall man looking at the distant figure on the barren hill whispered lightly.

"Du Clan juniors' came out."

"It is said that this round, among the juniors, Du Yu and Du Xue are quite strong, fifth-grade martial pulse talent, fourteen years old Houtian sixth layer. Probably enter Xiantian by seventeen or eighteen, a seventeen or eighteen-year-old Xiantian, that's almost one in a million."

As several young girls and boys step out from Du Clan's inner compound standing neatly in a line on the stage. Though age-wise they are on the smaller side but their atmosphere coming from them almost instantly ceased the crowd to silence as gazes fell one by one upon them.

Du Qi took the stage and announced: "Guards tryout begins now, undefeated

within three moves are eligible to be Du Clan's guard."

"Om!"

A bell sounded, one after another strong-looking man already leaping onto the stage and started sparring with those young girls and boys.

"Clang Clang!"

"Pop!"

At the same time, various sounds of metals clashing, palm fist colliding, coupled with the occasional shouts and cheers, the liveliness could be heard miles away.

With all attention directed towards the stage, no one paid further notice to the youth on the barren hill.

"Why did the stone tablet crumbled, after the first style there should be a second style ah."

On the hill, Du Shaofu delved into a pile of powdered rubble, raising a large screen of dust in the air covering his originally clean purple robe and his dusty face only managed to further emphasize his pearly white teeth even brighter.

"Well, it seems there is really no second style in here."

Du Shao Fu patted down his body to clear away the dust and sands, on the resolute face, bright eyes with a hint of a sparkle deep within, nothing on his face that shows he's the infamous fool the entire city gossips about.

"Boom"

Congealing a handprint within his palm a stream of yellowish qi rushed out causing his purple robe aflutter the surrounding space fluctuating as if about to shatter. The qi flow inexplicably adds an overbearing atmosphere to Du Shaofu: "Successful cultivated the first style, my martial pulse should be comparable to others normal second-grade pulse."

The mysterious stone tablet first style as if were specifically created for those with broken martial veins, it was able to restore broken veins, allowing a wasted martial pulse to be able to practice martial arts.

The dense cracks and grooves on the stone tablet were somehow related to martial practice and martial pulse. Du Shaofu is born into an old martial family that's why he could gauge the strength in his body is comparable to a general second-grade pulse, but Du Shaofu also noticed that there is something special about his martial pulse. Though it is similar to the general second-grade martial pulse, however, it is not something a general second-grade martial pulse can compare.

Successfully cultivating the first style enable broken martial veins to be restored till comparable to others second-grade martial pulse, in the future, if able to locate the second style stone tablet, and the third then what degree can his martial pulse achieved. Du Shaofu looked forward with anticipation.

“At least, I’m able to practice now, but firstly must find a way to ‘pluck off’ the fool nickname.”

Du Shaofu retrieved his handprint, xuanqi^[1] slowly dissipated within his palm, and a glint crossed his eyes. He is well-known throughout the city as a fool all these years that everyone truly believes that he is a true idiot.

Du Shaofu did not mind being called a fool all these years, even welcomed it as it allows him to comprehend the stone tablet without any disturbance.

But now since he reached minor completion^[2] practicing the ancient stone tablets’ first style, a fool cultivating will not receive the family’s resource support, and at the moment what he needs are resources. Not to mention being taken as a fool daily for the past ten years is definitely not pleasant. Things that were taken away from him these ten years, Du Shaofu would start getting it back.

“Pop! Pop!”

On the stage in front of Du Clan’s main entrance, a dozen of Du Clan’s thirteen to fourteen years old girls and boys either with bare fist or a sword in hand sparring against challengers older than them.

These Du Clan’s juniors though young but handle those men with ease, one move or two strokes at the most were used to defeats these men rendering the onlookers secretly astonished and even more respectful towards Du Clan.

“Isn’t it just enduring three moves, fight ah.”

“This time we must become Du Clan’s guard, fight ah.”

Looking at the strength of these young girls and boys, each man on stage gets more fervent, if they have the opportunity to enter Du Clan and manage to learn a skill or two, they will also become stronger!

Unfortunately, of those burly men rushing up in excitement only scarce few managed to remain undefeated after three moves, and in less than an hour, a total of two to three hundred people had eagerly rushed up to the stage and subsequently being thrown back down the stage one by one, however, it’s obvious by their heavy breathing the dozen juniors are at their limit.

Finally, there are twenty people who barely managed to withstand three moves, most of them are injured but nevertheless excited as they managed to stay on the stage.

No one noticed Du Shaofu coming down from the barren hill as everyone’s focus was on the stage.

Du Shaofu squeezed himself into the crowd to join in the liveliness, looking at those so-called cousins’ movements, sometimes scowling, sometimes pondering, hands moving under the long-sleeves.

“Why is there so many flaws with Du Clan’s martial arts, or maybe it is me that overthinking.”

Mouthing lightly, in the crowd Du Shaofu gets increasingly confused, he has seen people within the family practice martial art previously, however at that time he didn’t understand anything, and after comprehending the stone tablet, re-analyzing Du Clan’s martial art, he feels like he’s beginning to understand some.

And now, looking at these Du Clan martial arts skills, Du Shaofu feels there is too many weakness and full of flaws.

“Stop. Twenty places are filled tryout ends here.”

When the last person, at the expenses of spitting a mouthful of blood to withstand the third move, Du Qi who was at the corner of the stage went up to

the man and said: “Congratulations, after this you will be joining Du Clan as guards, those with injuries will receive free treatment at Du Clan medicine courtyard.”

“Thank you, Deputy Commander.”

Twenty strong men nodded happily, as Du Clan’s guard, the given treatment are truly not the same.

“Ai, quota already filled, today’s a trip in vain.”

“Du Clan’s junior are really strong even though they are still so young!”

When Du Qi announced the results, many of those who were still waiting beside the stage had their stomachs churning full of regret. If they had known, they would have come earlier to wait in line. The crowd began to disperse as the buzz of excitement began to wane.

Du Clan’s juniors were about to leave, today for them was just a preliminary test; it is not the same with the usual stricter testing within the clan.

“Slow down.”

At this time, in the midst of the twenty men that managed to withstand three moves, an unshaven, slightly dark skin, tall man jumped out and took a step forward, lightly salute, then looked at Du Qi, gathered up courage and ask: “Deputy Commander is it true as long one defeat or ties with a direct descendant of Du Clan junior he can be the Captain Guard?”

Notes:

1. Xuanqi – type/name of qi
2. Minor completion-a minimum grasp of a skill/technique/law/method; usually followed by ‘major completion success

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Chapter 03: One Move Defeat

“Hey hey, someone wants to challenge the Captain Guard position ah, courage is not small.”

Hearing that the dispersing onlookers suddenly stopped for it seems like there's more to see.

Du Clan's dozen juniors also turned around and remained on stage smile in their eyes since there is someone who's looking for abuse, they naturally won't be lenient.

Du Qi is also quite surprised, a tiny frown appeared between his eyebrows as he looked at Blackie, when this person was on the stage earlier he noticed that this person practices martial art, However his martial pulse is not high, should be around second grade but within this group of twenty people, he is definitely one of the stronger ones.

“Do you truly want to challenge the Captain Guard position? Having ambition is a good point however the Captain Guard position is not an easy challenge.”

Du Qi finds Blackie a little interesting, those juniors even the weakest of them is Houtian fourth layer approaching the fifth layer, this person though is considered the fore amongst the selected group, but to defeat or draw with the Du Clan juniors is unlikely to happen unless there is a miracle.

Blackie slightly trembled under Du Qi's stare and avoided his eyes but thinking of the benefits being a Captain Guard would bring plus he had a distant relative inside Du Clan, he's not afraid to offend this Deputy Commander, gritting his teeth and said to Du Qi: “Don't tell me the honorable Du Clan plans to go back on their word, at the very least I should be given an opportunity.”

“Challenge the Captain Guard position.”

“Du Clan can’t go back on their words now.”

Some individuals began to stir the crowd’s emotions, for the onlookers, there’s nothing better than an interesting show.

Du Qi’s eyes swept around the stage at the booing crowd then back at the uncouth Blackie, slightly unhappy: “So, which of the Du Clan’s Miss or Master you want to challenge?”

Blackie swallowed nervously, slowly looking past at the dozen young boys and girls who is also eyeing him, suddenly he turned and looked straight at a youth in a purple robe standing in the crowd: “He also is Du Clan’s young master, right?”

“Du Shaofu.”

Being pointed out by Blackie, numerous pair of eyes turned towards the youth in a purple robe. Du family members’ expression was the first ones to become weird, that person is, of course, Du Shaofu. When did this fool come over, usually at this type of event you’ll hardly even bump into his shadow.

Crowded onlookers around the stage also immediately noticed Du Shaofu, the infamous Du Clan’s idiot young master was just beside them but none of them noticed.

Looking at Du Shaofu standing there, Du Qi’s face secretly twitched, frowning he turned to Blackie and said: “Yes, he is Young Master Du Shaofu, naturally are Du Clan’s young master.”

“That’s right, I want to challenge this Du Clan’s young master today, if I win, I should be the Captain Guard.”

Blackie laughed inwardly as he looked at Du Shaofu, Du Clan’s situation is something he is quite familiar with, when he happened to see the infamous Young Master Du Shaofu present, it was like divine intervention aiding him, an opportunity that should not be missed.

Although challenging a fool is a bit shameless but thinking of the benefits even if it is shameless, damn it, Blackie will acknowledge it.

“What.....”

“To challenge that fool Du Shaofu this guy is too outrageous.”

Du Clan family members' expressions stirred, who isn't aware that Du Shaofu can't practice martial arts moreover a fool, looking at his dull appearance there is no denying he is an authentic fool.

"Blackie's really shameless wanting to challenge Du Shaofu however, this time seems like Du Clan's the mute eating bitter gourd[1] and suffer this in silence."

"Is it that Du Clan has no guts, might as well promote Blackie as Captain Guard."

"Well done Blackie, beat up that Du Clan's young master, ha ha"

The people's expression inside the crowd also became weird looking at the infamous idiot young master. Only some individuals hiding in corners shouting sarcastic remarks for they dare not openly offend Du Clan.

"This idiot fool, why did he come out today and cause trouble for the entire family."

"What do we do now?"

Members of the Du Clan secretly curse, no matter what, Du Shaofu is a young master of the Du Clan, if he gets knocked down in one stroke by a guard then Du Clan loses face. Injuries are a small matter, more importantly, the Du Clan reputation cannot be tarnish.

Du Qi's face does not look good, who would have thought Blackie would shamelessly pick to challenge Du Shaofu. He is responsible for today's guard tryout, and if Du Clan's reputation is tarnished in any degree, even as Deputy Commander he's bound to reap the bitter fruits.

"Who called me, is someone looking for me?"

Du Shaofu was planning to leave the stage area when he faintly heard his name being called out, following the gazes of the surrounding people, his eyes finally fell on the stage.

Amidst the slight commotion from the crowd, Blackie covertly swept his eyes through the members of the Du Clan, when he saw his distant relatives amongst them not showing any objection, his courage got bigger.

"Young Master Du kindly enlightened me on the stage."

Blackie clasped his hand together at Du Shaofu and said loudly, sarcasm evident in his eyes instead of admiration that are shown the members of Du Clan.

“You want to challenge me?”

Du Shaofu blanked for a moment, after understanding the situation he looked at Blackie on the stage with his bright eyes and gave a small chuckle: “This is not right, you should challenge the weakest one of my cousins to see if you have a chance.”

“Hey, this fool even spoke today, in the end, is a genuine fool or just pretending.”

“But his words do not sound stupid ah.”

“This idiot actually spoke today.”

Listening to the words of Du Shaofu, the Du Clan crowd stirred up again.

Looking at Du Shaofu in front of the stage and the remarks from the crowd, Blackie got bolder, anyway, he is not afraid of offending this fool young master as he had learned from his distant relative that this fool can't practice martial arts and has no status whatsoever in the family. Laughing loudly: “Could it be the honorable Du Clan's young master dare not fight, if so, does this means that I'm to directly become the Captain Guard.”

“Du Clan young master dare not go up the stage ah.”

“The honorable Du Clan is only at this standard.”

A lot of booing sounds are heard, getting more and more unscrupulous some even got physical with the crowd.

“Young Master Du, if you dare not fight, then Du Clan can directly make me a Captain, we can forget about this matter, ha ha.” Blackie laughed all the more proudly, being able to humiliate a young master of Du Clan, he's probably the first person in Stone City.

“Since you insist, as you wish.”

Du Shaofu faint voice spread out, his feet tap the ground, under the heels two streams of green airflow suddenly discharged, and with a body twist Du Shaofu

appeared directly in front of Blackie on the stage causing countless surprised sounds.

“Impossible, how can

Looking at Du Shaofu who suddenly appeared in front of him, Blackie was shocked, just looking at this trick earlier, is the young master in front truly the renowned waste and fool?

Appearing in front of Blackie, Du Shaofu’s expression did not change, hands behind his back, purple robe fluttering, bright eyes looking at Blackie: “Not starting?”

“Impossible, my eyes must have been bedazzled.”

Hearing the question, Blackie recovered from his state of shocked and somehow convinced himself the lies with his eyes and there’s no reason to be afraid of a fool young master. Gritting his teeth, body leaning slightly, fingers clenching into a fist, then three vague fist shadows appeared directly boxing out towards Du Shaofu.

The next moment, the three vague fist shadows appeared in front of Du Shaofu, converging against Du Shaofu’ chest.

“Break!”

Just before the fists strike his chest, from Du Shaofu’s mouth came a loud shout which sounded like a dragon’s roar, lighting seems to flash out in his cool bright eyes, his purple robe fluttering and the stage trembled. With Du Shaofu feet as the center, cracks begin spreading on the entire stage.

“Ka Cha!”

Everyone including Blackie was shocked by this sudden loud shout, yet to recover, a sound of bone breaking followed behind the loud shout then a tall silhouette is seen flying out like a broken kite landing heavily outside of the stage.

On the stage, Du Shaofu is still standing straight on the same spot, hands held behind his back, purple robe swaying in the breeze displaying an air of dominance.

“Puchi!”

Struggling to get up after being thrown off stage, Blackie spewed a mouthful of blood while clutching his chest, his ribs obviously broken. Everywhere shocked eyes were looking at the slender figure in purple on the stage.

Few people saw what took place, but all of them seen, the rumored of fool young master of the Du Clan did not even move, only with that one loud shout Blackie was sent flying off the stage, such a feat hardly believable unless witnessing it with one’s own eyes.

The booing sound around the stage came to a sudden halt. Stunned agape at what just happened, undeniably a slap in the face for those who were booing sarcastically earlier. Is that really Du Clan’s young master whom cannot practice? Even Du family members that spoke rudely earlier felt their cheeks burning hot.

“Continue, I’m going back.”

Leaving the stage, Du Shaofu did not even look at Blackie, turned and said to Du Qi that was not far away, giving his long-sleeved purple a flick, then stepped lightly away.

“Boom!”

When Du Shaofu left, the entire stage shuddered and began cracking from the spot where Du Shaofu was standing, finally the middle of the stage collapse leaving a big hole. The crowd retreated to the back swiftly.

“Gulu”

Everyone looked at each other around the stage in dismay, swallowing saliva nervously.

Note:

1. The mute eating *bitter gourd* (actually huáng lián; a type of bitter herb)-
idiom: can only suffer in silence without being able to tell anyone.

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Chapter 04: Mysterious Sarcophagus

Perhaps it was due to the guard's tryout Du Shaofu didn't run into anyone on the way back to his courtyard.

The truth is, even if he does meet someone including the servants and the guards, they will not bother themselves with him. Young Master Du Shaofu's presence throughout the years is like the invisible air.

Although treated as invisible he does live in quite a nice place. The whole courtyard is very wide, there are not many similar ones available as only those respected family elders are qualified to live in such a courtyard.

Du Shaofu can live in this courtyard is mainly due to basking in his father's glory, if not for his Father being the third brother of the current Du Clan Patriarch, just the words of 'fool young master' were enough to strip him of any decent treatment, let alone a courtyard like this.

When Du Shaofu reached the courtyard, a familiar figure was sleeping on a wicker chair, drunk but hands still holding on to a wine jug, reluctant to let go.

"Dad, how did you get this drunk again."

Du Shaofu went over, looking at the drunken face half hidden by disheveled hair, distressed filled his bright eyes.

In these sixteen years, Du Shaofu's most notable memory of his father Du Tingxuan, is that he often sits in the yard clutching his wine jug and just staring at the sky, gradually falling into drunken stupor reeking of wine.

"Shaofu, you're back. Are you hungry, find something to eat from the kitchen."

Du Tingxuan woke up drowsily, still confused, raised his hand to rubbed his bleary eyes and sat up from the wicker chair, a strong stench of alcohol wafted

pass as he speaks. A head taller than Du Shaofu, body slightly on the thinner side, under the disheveled hair, were shadows of a dashing face, if not for the overwhelming stench of alcohol.

“Dad, I’m not hungry, I help you to your room and rest.”

Just as Du Shaofu was about to move forward, Du Tingxuan’s hand blocked his body, swaying the wine jug in his hand smiled and said: “No need, there’s no more wine, I’m going out to buy some wine.”

Having said that, Du Tingxuan dragged his drunken body staggered out of the courtyard, leaving Du Shaofu standing alone silently.

From the time Du Shaofu can remember things, the wine jug never left his father’s hands, but strangely for Du Shaofu he has no memory of his mother at all. After standing there quietly for a while, Du Shaofu went in search for a drink of water in the hall then went straight back to his room.

Inside his room, Du Shaofu sat cross-legged, condensing a handseal xuanqi emitted from his whole body, suddenly within the palm a talisman-like pattern gushed out, murmuring lightly with a satisfied smile: “This mysterious first style power is not weak fortunately, I just initiated a little.”

Earlier on the stage Du Shaofu used the first style that he spent a decade in front of the ancient stone tablet to comprehend, the scope of power just by initiating it a little bit is astonishing.

Only Du Shaofu knows, the mysterious first style within the stone tablet not only enable his martial veins to recovered but also cultivated xuanqi, more importantly, this first style feels like it is all-encompassing, with endless variations, awe-inspiring and overbearing.

However, currently Du Shaofu is in a rather perplexing situation, his body accumulated plenty of xuanqi but without any level of cultivation.

Although the first style was able to mend broken martial veins, enabling his body to produce xuanqi but after all, is not a type of martial exercise law, it’s unable to increase his level of cultivation.

In this world, humans practicing martial arts are differentiated into different realms – Houtian Warrior, Xiantian Warrior. Only after entering Xiantian warrior

can one be considered as truly stepping into the martial world, but vast majority spent their lives stuck at the Houtian level unable to take that step into Xiantian, which only proves even though one can practice but not just any person can cross over into Xiantian territory.

Although he was unable to practice martial arts before, being born in an old martial family the years living wasn't wasted. Du Shaofu is crystal clear about his current condition; there are nine layers to a Houtian, with the xuanqi within his body fighting against a Houtian eight layer even a ninth layer is not a problem.

"My martial veins are mend and I'm able to practice now, tomorrow I should go to the Martial Collection Building to look for an exercise law."

Du Shaofu deliberated since there is no way to practice the second style of the mysterious stone tablet, so for now, he can only practice a different technique to get his level of cultivation up.

Even without him having any level of cultivation the mysterious first style was able to exhibit that kind of power, once he raises his cultivation the mysterious first style definitely will become more powerful, which makes Du Shaofu excited.

"Continue to comprehend the mysterious first style."

After deciding, Du Shaofu condensed a handseal, closed his eyes and entered a state of comprehension, besides it not like he has any daily chores to perform.

Although Du Shaofu took ten years to comprehend the first style on that ancient stone tablet before reaching minor completion but clearly there's still a long way to go to before fully grasping it.

Ten years ago, when he was tested to have broken veins thus have no future in martial arts, unable to accept the result, he ran out into the violent storm before the stone tablet to vent out. Who would've thought that lightning would strike the stone tablet, the stone tablet was fine, but the lightning ricocheted striking Du Shaofu instead.

Du Shaofu woke up after being in a coma for three days. The truth was, in that three days he was in a wondrous state gaining insight, when that lightning strike down, a mysterious talisman pattern from the ancient stone tablet accompanied by lightning appeared in his mind.

Du Shaofu does not know what those mysterious talisman patterns are in the beginning, however in that wondrous state Du Shaofu had an epiphany, in the end, he finally understood that it was a powerful martial style, it was as if the mysterious style were specifically created for people with broken veins.

Martial pulse is divided into nine grades, the lowest being grade one and nine highest, the higher the order of the martial pulse the higher the greater the future achievements will be, this is a universal law and also the irrevocable truth.

Du Shaofu's broken martial veins weren't even graded as a martial pulse which means that he will never have any success in practicing martial arts, even some bottom-tier skill are just for fitness purposes only.

The mysterious first style that was able to mend martial veins allowed Du Shaofu to see hope from the abyss of despair, as long as he comprehends the moves, a waste martial pulse will be able to practice. Again and again, Du Shaofu stood in front of the ancient stone tablet, in his eyes, those cracks and grooves are no longer simple fractures but a secret pattern of the human body.

The complicated dense lines and cracks are just like the human body's meridians in general, very profound, very mysterious, and finally, he was able to comprehend enough to practice the mysterious first style.

Du Shaofu immersed himself in comprehension, just like a fish in the sea, boundless, unable to regain himself. The subsequent ten years Du Shaofu finally grasp that mysterious first style and understood that there should be a second style, a third style, but within that ancient stone tablet of Du Clan, it only contained the first type.

Inside the room, further insights gradually rendered Du Shaofu into a state of selflessness.....

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Morning, silence all around, only the slightest light peeking from the east horizon, gradually the first ray of sunlight pierced the darkness before dawn, across the mountains and the ocean, finally enveloping Stone City.

Waking up his open eyes are met with darkness, but his whole body feels light and comfortable, just like after a round of quenching marrow and cleansing

meridians[1].

“Ka ka!”

Du Shaofu reached up and gave the top a push, emitting sounds of “kaka” due to friction as the stone cover slides open and Du Shaofu stood up from the sarcophagus like it was the most normal thing in the world.

Note:

1. Major body detoxification and overhaul where everything improves; clear bright eyes, baby skin, stronger bones, tougher skin, *etc.*

Revised 27 Oct 16

Chapter 05: Eccentric Fu Yibai

The sarcophagus hanged suspended in an antiquated house of blue limestone, it stood as if it were an ancient palace, blue green limestone paved the floors, the whole building surrounded with vicissitudes of an olden era.

The layout is extremely simple, only some wooden tablets of Du Clan's ancestors were placed, and the blue limestone walls on four sides were carved with some mystical runes, profound and extremely complicated, primeval traces surrounds the place; in short, this blue limestone antique house is an ancestral shrine.

“Again inside this.”

Organizing his thoughts, Du Shaofu did not feel strange, in these ten years, he had already lost count the times he woke up within the sarcophagus inside the ancestral shrine.

Du Shaofu remembered roughly ten years ago, the first time he realized that he woke up in the ancestral shrine hall's sarcophagus, he was scared out of his wits. Thereafter, almost every other morning he will find himself waking up in the sarcophagus, it terrified him so much that he went to look for his Eldest Uncle and Second Uncle about it.

But since he was already saddled with ‘fool young master’ nickname first, none of the Clan members believed him, and some even reprimanded him for being naughty, inane till climbing inside the sarcophagus within the ancestral and fell asleep.

Some of the family elders specifically warned Du Shaofu the sarcophagus is something inherited from Du Clan ancestors, that it's sacred in nature and if he crawls inside the sarcophagus again severe family punishment awaits.

During these years, though waking up in the sarcophagus was not a daily occurrence, but every month there will be a quite a few days he wakes up in the sarcophagus within the ancestral hall. As for how he ended there, he had never been able to figure it out.

To find out how, Du Shaofu even went without sleep for a few nights or pretended to be asleep, but all tricks were useless. In the morning he would appear inside the sarcophagus, as for how and when remains a mystery.

In the end Du Shaofu got used to it and no longer discussed it with the family, either way, Du Shaofu is clear, even if the matter is brought up, it is impossible for anyone to believe him, worse still he might bring upon himself the family's punishment.

Waking up from the sarcophagus for so many times, from his initial shock and fear at the beginning turned to excitement and anticipation at the end, because every time Du Shaofu wakes up from the sarcophagus, he could feel a difference, noticing his physique improved, receiving great benefits.

In the beginning, each time Du Shaofu wakes up from inside the sarcophagus, his body, and his clothes will be wet covered with muddy black sweat and horrible stench.

After several times later, the sweat became cleaner and clearer and the smell no longer there.

During this period, Du Shaofu naturally felt his body getting better each time as if the body had gone through quenching marrow pulp-washing. Even comprehending the ancient stone tablet the first style had gotten easier while it also speeds up mending the martial veins among other benefits.

Du Shaofu can feel the changes in his body's waste martial pulse, seemingly differ from the general martial pulse, but specifically as to what changes and difference Du Shaofu is unable to describe in details.

"Xuanqi is fuller and more condense, this sarcophagus must be a treasure."

Du Shaofu jumped down from the suspended sarcophagus, sensing the improvement inside his body turned back to look at the sarcophagus, traces of suspicion in the bright eyes for he is certain this sarcophagus is absolutely a

treasure.

“Time to go to Martial Collection Building to look for an exercise law.”

Du Shaofu muttered lightly, his body’s xuanqi is fuller and more condensed that it feels like it’s about to burst anytime if xuanqi in his body really explodes it definitely will not something pleasant.

Quickening his steps, Du Shaofu left the Du Clan ancestral shrine which is inside a mountain. The site of the ancestral shrine is quite hidden, unknown of which of the Du ancestors built it therefore, and usually no one noticed the ancestral building.

Martial Collection Building is where Du Clan keeps its’ collection of martial arts and precious items, one of the most important places in Du Clan compound. Even Du Clan Elders cannot freely enter, whereas the juniors need permission every time they want to search for martial exercises or skills.

However, even though permission is granted for juniors to enter the Martial Collection Building, mishaps may happen as the one guarding over the Martial Collection Building is Fu Lao[1].

To get pass Fu Lao, unless Fu Lao is in excellent mood or all effort will be fruitless, without something delicious or fun they would not get any martial skills or exercises. Normal tricks don’t work on Fu Lao cause he’s not an ordinary old man, if he does not allow anyone to enter the Martial Collection Building, one can only obediently wait.

Fu Lao’s real name is Fu Yibai. The entire Du Clan knows that even the Patriarch has to be respectful and bows in greeting when Fu Lao is in front of him thus Fu Lao’s status is very high within the Du Clan.

Many said that Fu Lao has been with the Du Clan for a very long time, even when the previous two generations’ of Patriarch was alive, Fu Lao was already in Du Clan, in short, Fu Lao could be referred as a three generations’ Elder.

According to some people, Fu Lao have martial cultivation whereas there are others that say he doesn’t and even some that say he have a little. No one truly knows whether Fu Lao have any martial cultivation or not since no one has seen him use it however, this doesn’t affect his status in Du Clan as a three

generations' Elder as well as the keeper of the Martial Collection Building which only serve to solidify his status in the Clan.

The Martial Collection Building located at the center of the Du Clan compound, and divided into three floors, the area is not large, absent of grand decorations, in truth, it's a little bit dilapidated nonetheless still charming.

When Du Shaofu arrived at the Martial Collection Building, he saw a dirty old man in shabby clothing with a few straws of weed in his white hair, holding an old ramshackle broom swaying left and right sweeping the ground, dust flying everywhere.

The old man senses someone coming thus looked up to see Du Shaofu's figure, his expression immediately changed, turned around to leave without any intention to look back.

“Cough.....”

Du Shaofu deliberately faked a cough, looked at the white-haired old man that was about to leave, opened his mouth conversationally and quite affectionately, said: “Bai Lao, are you sweeping?”

Hearing Du Shaofu's voice, the old man immediately turned back awkwardly towards Du Shaofu, his wrinkly face forcefully squeezing out a smile, chuckled and shamelessly said: “Big Brother, I did not see you just now. What brings you here?”

Notes:

1. Fu Lao (Fu Yi Bai)- Lao means old. It is a respectful salutation used to greet elders which is not relatives; can also be used between men in brotherhood/siblings eg: Lao Da (Big Brother), Lao Er (Second Brother)... etc

Revised: 31Oct 16

Chapter 06: Purple Qi Sunworship Scripture

If someone from the Du Clan saw this shabby old man referring Du Shaofu as big brother the entire Du Clan would flip over.

Who is this old man? He is esteemed Fu Lao, the one that even the Patriarch have to bend and salute to, but he is calling the fool young master big brother, this is undeniably shocking.

“I came to see you, and to take a stroll around the Martial Collection Building.”

Du Shaofu seemed quite satisfied Fu Yibai’s attitude, however when Fu Yibai heard that Du Shaofu wanted to enter the Martial Collection Building, he curled his lips revealing old yellowed front teeth, looked Du Shaofu and said: “You want to go inside again, do you know that Martial Collection Building is not a place to come and go as you please? ”

“Do not forget I am your big brother, do you have any opinions?”

Du Shaofu stared straight at Fu Yibai without budging, raised his eyebrow and lightly said: “Who was the one that sworn that the lost party will call the one who won Big Brother; adhere unconditionally to Big Brother’s words, the person who violates this oath will forever feel the to urge to urinate plus a lifetime of hemorrhoids!”

“No opinions, no comments, cause you are my Big Brother.”

Listening to Du Shaofu’s words, Fu Yibai’s face wilted, forcing out of a smile, chuckled and said in a small voice: “You go in, I’ll stay here as a lookout, just look at whatever you want, any problems come look for me.”

“En, Lao Bai, I like your attitude, rest assured, I had promised you earlier, in front of other people, I would give you face.” Du Shaofu patted Fu Yibai’s

shoulder in a satisfied manner and strode casually into the Material Collection Building.

This little bastard, if he is a real fool how fortunate it would be, unfortunately, all is just pretense. Looking at Du Shaofu's back, Fu Yibai gritted his teeth vehemently, *if I knew I would not have made such venomous oath.*

Remembering the time of the bet, Fu Yibai wanted to cry, but no tears would come, it has been several years past, but he still couldn't figure out how he lost, worse still he lost to a fool.

Betting so many times in his lifetime that was the only time Fu Yibai miscalculated and lost unknowingly, that oath was made by him and remembering that venomous oath, Fu Yibai touched his withered butt.

"Fu Lao, I have permission to go to the second floor to pick a martial skill."

At this time, a well-dressed young man happily ran towards Fu Yibai, to be permitted to choose a martial skill from the Martial Collection Building are usually those that are rewarded by the family.

"Pick martial skills, what's the use of learning so many martial skills, biting off more than you can chew, sweep the floor for me."

Fu Lao's mood is not very good, immediately looking upset he threw the broom to the young man and left without looking back.

"Yes, Fu Lao"

Young man's happy face replaced with an aggrieved look, but there is no other way, with the broom in his hands honestly started sweeping.

This is not Du Shaofu's first time inside the Martial Collection Building, although each time he could only sneak in without knowledge of others, Du Clan's martial exercises positions are something he knew like the back of his hand.

This time, the purpose of coming to Martial Collection Building is to find a suitable exercise law.

Exercise law is divided into four levels, the strongest Heaven rank, the lowest Yellow rank, each level is further divided into three grades of order namely early

grade, intermediate and high-grade.

Du Clan's main descendants mostly practices one of three exercise law, the strongest set of exercise is said to be called 'Purple Qi Sunworship Scripture', an early grade Mysterious rank exercise law that only a small number of members which are of paramount importance are allowed to cultivate it.

Side branch families cultivate the 'Unfathomable Righteous Tactics' or 'Bright Moon Tactics' both are Yellow rank high-grade level exercises.

Du Shaofu is very much at home on the third floor of Martial Collection Building where all the high-grade martial arts of the Du Clan is kept. Since he is going to cultivate, Du Shaofu plans to cultivate a high-grade exercise as no one in the family cares anyway, sometimes there a good side of being a fool, there is nothing the family can do if they were to find out later.

The third floor of the Martial Collection Building is very spacious, exuding an air of era gone by. Not much things are placed on this floor, of course, apart from the Patriarch, nobody else would be allowed to roam freely like Du Shaofu.

"Where is the Purple Qi Sunworship Scripture?"

Du Shaofu Du still couldn't locate the 'Purple Qi Sunworship' exercise law after going around the third floor; he saw both 'Unfathomable Righteous Tactics' and 'Bright Moon Tactics', but these two sets of exercises law is not what Du Shaofu wanted.

"Shiu!"

Suddenly, while searching for 'Purple Qi Sunworship Scripture' Du Shaofu heard a breeze blown passed behind him.

"Who is it?"

Golden light flashed across Du Shaofu's eyes, reacting instinctively, he rapidly retreated and turned sideways while congealing a handprint, xuanqi rushed out enveloping his body, winding and twisting in strange arcs before gathering in his palm. Making a fist that has a faint talisman pattern and strike out directly onto the breeze's direction.

"Chi la!"

Breeze dispersed blowing against Du Shaofu's forehead, and Du Shaofu was thrown back from the impact, staggering a few steps back before finally stabilizing his body by leaning against the wall. His bright eyes to look around, the entire third floor of the Martial Collection Building was empty not even the shadow of a ghost can be seen.

"Ei, what is this?"

Instead of shadows, Du Shaofu saw an unusual object, unsure of how the object fell from the crevice corner of the wall right onto Du Shaofu's forehead.

If not for the few steps of retreat shook the walls, the object wouldn't have fallen. Du Shaofu's hand lifted the object, a small glowing bronze tower, the size of a thumb, dusty and unremarkable looking. Apparently, no one has noticed this thing at all.

Evaluating this little tower, which seems like nothing extraordinary, probably a toy or small gadget, Du Shaofu's was more concerned with figuring out who made a sneak attack on him.

"Who is it in the end."

Putting the little tower away, Du Shaofu was still wondering who attacked him earlier, but it can only wait till he gets out of the building.

Although he did not find 'Purple Qi Sunworship Scripture', it is not in his character to leave empty-handed, he can still practice martial skills as he cannot use the mysterious first style every time.

Going through the introduction of some of the martial skills, Du Shaofu picked up a martial skill and whichever items that particularly interest him will also be taken.

Finally, Du Shaofu went down to the second floor and did the same before leaving satisfied.

Revised 5 Nov 16

Chapter 07: Conflict

Coming out from the Martial Collection Building, Du Shaofu intended to ask Fu Yi Bai where the 'Purple Qi Sunworship Scripture' exercise is but was surprised to find a young man obediently sweeping the floor and Fu Yi Bai nowhere to be seen.

Noticing that it was Du Shaofu coming out from the Martial Collection Building, the young man holding the broom was surprised and a little doubtful.

Since yesterday the three words Du Shaofu have been spreading throughout Du Clan. Everyone is talking about what happened yesterday on the stage, a single shout loud enough to throw people off the stage, what actually happened, could it be this 'fool' young master is not really a fool.

Seeing that someone is here, Du Shaofu had the grace to leave first and then come back the next day to ask Fu Yi Bai about it. After all, Martial Collection Building is not a place easily accessible, in case someone's planning some mischief then it will be difficult for him to come again in the future.

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Du Clan's inner courtyard is a lush of green with individual balconies. The Du Clan is an old family of Stone City that even the buildings' have an ancient grandeur to it, harmoniously blending in the scenery.

Du Shaofu left the Martial Collection Building walking along a gravel trail, surrounded by the vast lush nature that his pace can't help but slowed down.

"Hee hee."

Up ahead on the gravel trail, suddenly came sounds of laughter.

Du Shaofu lifted his head, eyes searching the origin and found several young

girls and boys walking over, leading them were a boy and a girl which particularly stand out than the rest.

Du Shaofu can't help but frowned looking at this group of youngsters. He recognized the leading young man, called Du Hao, First Elder's grandson, older than him by one year which makes him seventeen. It is said that he's considered as one of the leaders of the younger generation in Du Clan.

This Du Hao, Du Shaofu naturally remembers. Although he was a wasted martial pulse, he still had his status as Du Clan young master, every month the clan distributes allowance and dans to all of them, but his monthly allowance and dan never did reach him. Once distributed, it will be taken away, and the person who robbed him the most is Du Hao.

This kind of practice is naturally prohibited, but due to the words idiot young master, the elders closed an eye^[1] and did not interfere. Perhaps those family elders also believed that those allowances and dans would be put to better use by those who took them then wasted on a fool.

Thus later, Du Shaofu no longer collects his monthly distribution, as he didn't need them and within Du Clan, he need not spend any money.

As for the beautiful girl in front, Du Shaofu took an extra glance, not a member of the Du Clan, and the people accompanying her are also not of the Du Clan.

The girl is quite beautiful, still very young but already showing shapely curves, fair skin and a delicate face that occasionally breaks into an easy smile, rendering those Du Clan juniors love struck, especially Du Hao, who has been enthusiastically accompanying at her side.

Aware that there's somebody around, the several young girls and boys turned and saw Du Shaofu, the sound of laughter gradually died down as all eyes fell on Du Shaofu.

Even though there are some within the crowd are considered his cousins, Du Shaofu never have any interaction with them since he was six. If there is any, then it would be during the yearly ancestral worship where these so-called cousins would secretly sneer and make fun of him.

Du Shaofu did not linger and walked straight on, "Du Shaofu, quickly give way,

what would happen if you collided with our guest?”

Du Hao wrinkled his brows; he did not expect to run into this fool here, his eyes gleamed a trace of sarcasm, he does not want this fool to ruin things for him.

Du Shaofu slightly lifted his head; he moved on without paying any attention to Du Hao.

“Didn’t you hear me, give way and roll aside.”

Seeing that Du Shaofu not only ignored him but continued to walk straight on, Du Hao finally set his sights on Du Shaofu.

Pausing his pace, Du Shaofu stopped, looked at Du Hao and said: “This is not a narrow road, you go your way, I go mine, there’s no need for me to step aside.”

Du Shaofu faint words caused Du Hao to lagged for a moment, sensing that there’s something different about this fool today, usually when this fool sees him, he would turn around and run away. Today with a beauty next to him this fool is making him lose face, Du Hao’s face became gloomy.

“Brother Hao, what’s to talk about with this fool, his silly logic will never be clear.”

A well-dressed young man sensibly steps forward from behind Du Hao, glanced at Du Shaofu, using one hand to push against Du Shaofu, quips: “You fool, be sensible and give.....”

“Ka Cha!”

A crisp bone breaking sound came, the well-dressed young man’s sentence has yet to finish, he is already issuing a heart-wrenching scream.

“ahhh.....”

Wailing miserably, the wrist of the stretched out arm, without anyone realizing has been twisted one hundred eighty degrees by Du Shaofu. With a cracking sound, the bone broke, and the pain caused the young man’s face turned liver-colored.

All of this happened so quickly that no one saw the exact details.

“Du Gui, based on seniority, I am your elder cousin brother. There is a

hierarchy of seniority in Du Clan; this is your lesson for disrespecting me!” Du Shaofu released his palm, standing there lightly, but exuding a kind of majestic momentum that is hard to ignore.

The suddenness of the event rendered the young girls and boys silly; only the beautiful girl raised her eyebrow looking at the unpredictable Du Shaofu.

“Du Shaofu, you dare!”

Du Hao recovered first, taking a deep breath his eyes fixed on Du Shaofu’s body, laughing despite anger, he feel today this fool indeed is different from usual, perhaps it is real as per the family rumors, this idiot returned to normal and could cultivate.

“Respect seniority is Du family’s rule; I was just teaching him.” Du Shaofu said looking at Du Hao.

“What a good respect seniority, my good cousin, your head has always been bad, it seems like today as an elder brother, it is necessary for me to teach you some rules too.”

Du Hao looked at Du Shaofu looked with a smiling face but hidden not too deep within his eyes was sarcasm, only a fool, even if cured how strong can he be.

“You cannot teach.”

Du Shaofu shook his head, glanced at the beautiful girl beside Du Hao, and then back at Du Hao: “I know you’re only trying to catch the attention of this Young Miss next to you.”

Voice slightly pause, Du Shaofu mouth curved into a teasing smile and continued in a playful tone: “However, you are still a fledgling, I feel your strength is still lacking, instead of the glory you seek you might instead lose face.”

“You.....”

His innuendo being declared publicly, Du Hao’s smile no longer remain his face, his expression turns dark. Never would he expect the infamous fool young master, today showed such a different side, he sneered: “I heard that you on

stole the limelight during Du Xue and Du Yu's stage sparring, I did not believe it at first, now it seems to be true. Let me test what is your capacity!"

"Better choose another day, don't let outsiders treat us as jokes. It is not okay, and I'm busy today. You better not neglect the Young Miss beside you."

With a flick of his long sleeves, Du Shaofu directly stepped away, not bothering even to look at Du Hao further.

"Du Shaofu, you"

Watching the indifferent Du Shaofu leaving, Du Hao gloomy face twitched, his chest as if pressed by something heavy.

The beautiful girl's eyes followed the back of the youth in purple robe, his back is extraordinarily broad for a lean body, then turned to the already gloomy Du Hao and asked: "Young Master Hao, is he one of your Du Clan siblings, how is it I have never seen him before?"

Revised 5 Nov 16

Note:

1. Closed an eye: Pretend not to see

Chapter 08: Practicing Martial Skills

The girl's beautiful curves enhanced by the dress that hugs around her body line, the surrounding young boys were shy to look but at the same time unable to help but to peek at her furtively.

"He is our Du Clan's sibling, Du Shaofu."

When the girl asked about Du Shaofu, Du Hao glared fiercely at Du Shaofu's back. He had no choice but let the matter go or else he really would be neglecting the beauty next to him. Just a fool, even though no longer idiotic, as long as Du Shaofu is still in Du Clan there's still many opportunities to teach him a lesson later. Looking at the girl beside him, he deliberately added: "His father is a useless alcoholic, and he is just a fool."

Pupils gazing at the slowly disappearing figure on the small gravel path, murmuring to herself: "So he is Du Shaofu, is he really a fool"

"Young Miss Ye, let's continue our walk."

Du Hao faced the girl with a kind smile, but a glint of harshness flitted across his eyes and vanished in a blink as he looked at the distant purple robe figure.

.....

It was evening by the time Du Shaofu returned to the courtyard and saw his father has yet returned.

Over the years Du Shaofu has gotten used to it, his father is probably drunk and sleeping somewhere. Though Du Shaofu is worried, he's helpless about the situation.

Entering his room, Du Shaofu took out two scrolls and a strange animal bone.

Both scrolls are filled with symbols like patterns, exuding a sharp heavy qi.

Obviously, it's the items taken from the third floor and the second floor of the Martial Collection Building. The first set of martial skill is called 'Raging Storm Waves Palm', a Xiantian level martial skill from the third floor and the other one 'Pulsate Fist' is taken from the second floor.

Although both sets of martial skill are of Xiantian level, clearly 'Raging Storm Waves Palm' is deemed of higher grade or else it will not be placed on the third floor whereas 'Pulsate Fist' the second floor. Below the Xiantian level martial skills are the Houtian level martial skills, but Du Shaofu has no interest in practicing a Houtian level skill.

During the time when Du Xue and the rest of his Du Clan cousins' displayed their Houtian level martial skills on the stage, to him, it was full of flaws and weaknesses. In Du Shaofu's mind that kind of martial skills even if one practices it will not be of much use.

Du Shaofu, of course, understands that it's not easy to practice a Xiantian level martial skill successfully that he went to the second floor and took the 'Pulsate Fist' which seemed easier.

Next to the two scrolls, lay a strange animal bone the length of a palm, extremely hard with traces of mystical runes on the surface that seemed to penetrate deep within the bone.

The animal bone is also one of Du Shaofu's harvest from the third floor of the Martial Collection Building, placed at an obscure place long forgotten.

When Du Shaofu saw the animal bone for the first time, there's a strange feeling in his heart, coming from his newly mended martial pulse. So, Du Shaofu took the bone away to study it.

"Have to find a place to practice Pulsate Fist."

Due to his body's condition, Du Shaofu decided to practice the easier 'Pulsate Fist' first, since there is no way for him to continue with the mysterious stone tablet's first style, it does not, however, hinder him from practicing other martial skills; unless the body is completely devoid xuanqi then he will not be able to practice anything at all.

His room is definitely not a suitable, for this, he needs to find a more secluded

place.

...

Night time.

In the forest behind the mountain, moonlight shined down between gaps of dense foliage, leaving numerous spots of tiny lights like shattered mirror on the ground. Occasionally wild beasts' roar could be heard within the distant mountain.

Over a small hill, Du Shaofu sat cross-legged, both hands forming seals, xuanqi rushing out from his palm and landed over the scroll placed in front.

When xuanqi lands atop the scroll, the entire scroll glowed softly and began to unfold by itself, the symbol-like patterns glowing as if it were about to jump out from the scroll. Each pattern gathered together forming a wave of light akin to a figure demonstrating a set of boxing style, these lights then entered Du Shaofu between his eyebrows.

Du Shaofu's body shudder as the light patterns entered, a glow enveloped his body, his face resolute. After everything calmed down, the light on the scroll dissipated.

"Hu~!"

Half an hour later, Du Shaofu breathed out a mouthful of air, eyelids twitched slightly and opened, a golden gleam in his bright eyes.

"Pulsate Fist, early grade Xiantian level martial skill, qi energy vibration, if practiced till major completion creates nine waves of vibration, each wave layer superimposed multiplying the power enough to crush the opponent's bones" Du Shaofu muttered lightly. This is information obtained from the Pulsate Fist scroll.

"Start practicing."

After a while, Du Shaofu stood up straight, recalling the information from the scroll, handseals suddenly condenses in Du Shaofu hands, forming a fist and started to train.

Horizon covered by the night sky, training under the starry moonlit sky.

...

Quaint bluestone pavilion, a beautiful girl is standing quietly, fair white skin, a delicate face with long hair cascading down, elegantly dressed. A pair of bright eyes shining in the moonlight, adding a cool temperament to the elegance.

“Zhijin.”

A hearty voice called out, and a lean middle-aged slowly walked out, about forty years of age with exceptional temperament, said: “How was the trip to Du Clan, is there any particular harvest?”

“Dad.”

The girl turned back; cherry lips formed a smile: “This generation of Du Clan are not considered weak, the overall strength should be slightly higher than the others, but I estimate the other three families is just lying low, there’s nothing special about Du Clan, but ... ”

“But what?” the lean middle-aged man asked gently with interest.

“Du Clan has a fool-like young master, this time accidentally encountered in Du Clan however compared to the rumors outside, seems to be somewhat different.”

Young girl smiled remembering that purple robed youth’s manners and bright eyes, definitely not a fool as rumored, and the strength exhibited in that one move, even her did not capture clearly....

“The one you mentioned should be Du Shaofu, the son of Du Clan’s third brother. This third brother of the Du Clan is actually quite mysterious. Years ago he left Stone City, saying it’s for training and battling in the outside world. Sixteen years ago he suddenly came back, bring along a son.” middle-aged said.

Eyes slightly flickered, looking at the shining moon in the sky above, “It’s been calm and peaceful in Stone City for more than ten years, it would start to get livelier. These years, the other families did not relax their training and cultivation. You should continue to focus on your cultivation. Recently the Wild Beasts Mountain is not peaceful; it is better than you do not enter, lest encounter any danger.”

“En, I know.”

The young girl nodded towards the middle-aged man. Then continue looking at the moon, night breeze caressing her black elegant hair.

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Chapter 09: Raging Storm Waves Palm

Three days later, when the sun's setting on the horizon, fiery amber glow projecting its last light onto earth.

In the silent forest, Du Shaofu continuously condensed one handseal after another, strands of xuanqi gathered in his palm which then coursed through specific meridians in the body before gathering again in his palm.

When xuanqi gathered again in his palm, at this moment Du Shaofu's atmosphere became fierce and frightening, as if a mighty sleeping wild beast awakening.

"Ka Ka!"

The ground beneath his feet cracked, the space around the purple robe figure rippled as if about to shatter, a myriad of heaven and earth's energy seemed to be gushing towards Du Shaofu and finally melded within his palm. The surrounding space constantly vibrates causing ripples as if water boiling.

"Raging Storm Waves Palm!"

Du Shaofu strike, xuanqi rushed out and a muffled sound like a faraway thunder is heard through the silent forest. Trailing the palm print, rows of wave-like wind blades can be seen with the naked eye spread out.

The palm print landed on a tree trunk, with the width of two bowls, the wave-like wind blades kept crashing against it just like raging waves.

"Boom!"

The solid tree trunk shook, broke in half and tumbled down. The sound echoed through the silent forest, its' many leaves drifts to the ground completely hindering the line of sight. The frightened birds flapped their wings and took off

while the nearby animals sped away.

When everything finally calmed down, the surrounding was a wreck.

Looking at the broken tree, Du Shaofu's bright eyes filled with surprise, faintly murmured: "Raging Storm Waves Palm truly is not something Pulsate Fist can compare to, but these both sets of martial skills feels like there are many flaws still. It should be much more refined."

In the duration of three days, Du Shaofu successfully practiced both Xiantian martial skill Pulsate Fist and Raging Storm Waves Palm. Du Shaofu felt compared to the ten years' time spent comprehending the stone tablet's first style, both of the Xiantian martial skill is too easy.

Whether it is Raging Storm Waves Palm or Pulsate Fist as long as Du Shaofu referred it to the mysterious first style, he will gain some insight. After trying out only two to three times he successfully learned them.

Thus, in one night Du Shaofu completed the Pulsate Fist, then subsequently the Raging Storm Waves Palm in two days and one night's time.

Activating the Pulsate Fist requires the xuanqi to turn three turns, passing 'Qi She'[1] to 'Yun Men'(Cloud Gate) through 'Kong Zui' and finally to 'Shao Fu'. If able to divert xuanqi to 'Tai Yuan' and 'Shao Shang' it is possible to condense xuanqi further, and the power will be higher. There are several meridians that do not add much effect, bypassing them will increase the speed of Pulsate Fist, becoming agiler thus eliminating a lot of flaws.

Du Shaofu mumbled to himself: "Raging Storm Waves Palm is the same if more xuanqi accumulates in 'Tian Men'(Heaven Gate) and 'Tien Chi'(Heaven Pond) then it would not experience a shortage of momentum. Only then it has the style of raging storm waves; its power will also be a lot stronger however there are still many flaws in other aspects."

Du Shaofu entered a semi-meditative state, Pulsate Fist and Raging Storm Waves Palm is not weak, particularly Raging Storm Waves Palm. After practicing both sets of martial skills, Du Shaofu realized that there are a lot of flaws and weaknesses to them.

"Perhaps I can improve the flaws."

Suddenly, Du Shaofu's face brightened up, clear eyes sparkled and began to enter into contemplation.

A person that is without any level of cultivation successfully practiced two sets of Xiantian martial skills and now intended to improve it's flawed, if other Xiantian Warriors were to know about this, even Maidong[2] Warrior, they'll be anxious to find a hole and simply drilled into it. This is blatant bullying.

No one will believe that a person can successfully practice two Xiantian martial skills in such a short time, furthermore a person that has no level of cultivation to begin with. It is impossible for any person.

Slowly, several days passed. The morning breeze blows, and the weather brings out the bright blue sky.

"Pulsate Fist!"

Morning. In the forest at the back of the mountain, Du Shaofu was rapidly condensing handseals, strands of xuanqi coursed past the meridians in the body and finally gathered inside his palm. Clenching his fingers together forming a fist, a sudden surge of momentum broke out, a light flickered in his pupils and a punch headed directly towards a big rock in front.

"Bang! Bang! Bang!"

Deep muffled explosion sound is heard continuously, a total of thirteen echoes, the energy waves overlapping reached a total of thirteen layers, the momentum soared to the point of terror and landed on the rock heavily.

"Bang!"

One punch and the hard rock that was about the size of two adults burst into smithereens.

Pulsate Fist, one punch creates nine pulses, as the layer increases it gets harder to add another layer.

But if there are any Du Clan's family around, they will be utterly shocked for it is too unbelievable. Du Shaofu's Pulsate Fist blasted thirteen pulse counts compared to the original nine; there is an additional of four. The level of difficulty and prestige can be imagined.

“After altering the Pulsate Fist is definitely stronger than the original version.”

Looking at the effect of Pulsate First after his improvisation, Du Shaofu’s face light up as if he completed something huge.

For a full four days, Du Shaofu immersed himself in improving the Pulsate Fist skill, finally achieving satisfactory results.

During the time, Du Shaofu realized that perfecting a martial skill is more demanding than just understanding and learning them. Knowing it is due to the ancient stone tablet first style which inspired him of the possibilities, otherwise, he couldn’t have improved the Pulsate Fist.

“Four days to improve Pulsate Fist. First, go back and see if Dad’s back. The Raging Storm Waves Palm can wait a few days.”

Du Shaofu did not intend to continue. Furthermore, it has been several days he hasn’t been home. Even to fill his stomach, he only picked some wild fruits in the vicinity.

“Hey, this flute has been playing for several days now.”

Suddenly, Du Shaofu looked up, from the depth of the distant mountains, a flute melody floated in the wind, the melody’s sometimes sharp and clear, and at times mellow or gentle. These several days of comprehending and perfecting the martial skills, occasionally this melodious flute sound can be heard, but Du Shaofu does not know where it comes from.

Another baffling thing is, once it is deep into the night, the beast roars from the Wild Beasts Mountains gets more frequent.

Du Shaofu didn’t pay too much attention to the flute melody or roars of the beast. Cleaning himself up slightly, looking a lot better, he stepped away from the mountains.

“Hey, you, you, come here.”

On the green mountain road, Du Shaofu was about to descend the mountain, a somewhat shrill voice of a fifty years old man reached Du Shaofu.

Notes:

1. Qi She, Yun Men, Kong Zui, Shaofu, Tian Men and Tian Chi are some names of acupuncture points.
2. Maidong Warrior-above Xiantian Warrior

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Chapter 10: The Annual Competition

“What?”

Du Shaofu pauses his steps, raised his head and asked. Du Shaofu naturally recognizes this old man, Du Clan’s rear courtyard housekeeper, Du Hai. Though cannot compare to the main courtyard, but his status is considered quite high in Du Clan. Usually, he does not put this young master in his eye,[1] of course, if it is the others Du Clan’s main descendants his deference reaches sky high.

“Today is the annual sparring competition, and the juniors will participate. This time, the prizes are quite lucrative, considering this is a rare chance, how can you not go. If you happen to miss it, don’t say that I did not inform you.”

Du Hai straightened his back when saying this to Du Shaofu as if performing a great benevolence by doing so. His eyes contained a trace of sarcasm and ridicule as he watched Du Shaofu, only a fool, even if he participates what he can do in the sparring competition.

“It’s the annual competition already?”

Du Shaofu feels that times flew quickly but did not bother with Du Hai further and left.

“This fool, does he really plan to participate in the competition? How did Du Clan produce such a fool.” Du Hai sneered indifferently, turned towards a different direction and walked away humming a tune. There are new maidservants waiting for him to train. Otherwise, he would have joined in to watch the fun.

Each year the clan’s sparring competition is held at the training field. Just as Du Shaofu reached the training field, lively voices filled with excitement can be heard. Coming to the training field, Du Shaofu just wanted to watch.

In the center of the training field, hundreds of juniors from the main branch and side branches can be seen waiting eagerly for the competition to begin. A few outstanding young men and women were standing proudly in the midst, surrounded by peers in the training field.

“Hey look, that fool is here!”

When Du Shaofu arrived, his presence immediately caused a small commotion as more and more attention fell on Du Shaofu.

“I heard that fool is cured; not sure whether it is true or not.”

“It was said, recovering would be difficult, the clan had wasted so much effort and financial resources, but still were unable to cure him at that time, now it should be even more difficult.”

“Haha, a fool coming to the competition, is it a contest of silliness.”

“Is the fool participating in the sparring competition, probably came to get beaten up.”

“If this fool is normal, he’s actually quite good-looking.”

“.....”

With the endless ridicule, especially coming from Du Hao’s side, many young girls looked Du Shaofu with an expression of pity.

Towards the surrounding people’s impudence ridicule, disdain, and sighs of sympathy, Du Shaofu gave no reaction as though they were not talking about him. His dark pupils swept across the faces of those mocking relatives, but his eyes were bright as if the scorn and disdained does not affect his mood in the slightest.

Then, suddenly Du Shaofu felt something different. He looked up and saw a group of young people about the same age, many of them were also looking at him. One of them was Du Gui whom Du Shaofu had ‘taught’ a lesson to previously, looking at Du Shaofu with coldness in his eyes while whispering something to a splendidly garbed young man next to him.

Du Shaofu recognized this brilliantly garbed young man, Du Chong. He is Du Gui’s older brother and one of the younger generation leaders of Du Clan. Beside

Du Chong, there is also Du Hao and another young man named Du Yan, both are no strangers to Du Shaofu.

The trio Du Hao, Du Chong, and Du Yan are surrounded by a lot of the clan juniors on the field, proving their standing amongst the clan juniors.

As Du Gui whispered into Du Chong's ear, Du Chong's eyes grew cold as he looked at Du Shaofu. Du Hao and Du Yan's eyes too reflected ill-intent.

Du Shaofu's eyes swept past Du Hao, Du Chong and Du Yan from afar, the three of them were the main culprits robbing his monthly allowances and dans.

Mouth slowly curved into a faint harsh smile, Du Shaofu sighed and shook his head, then walked slowly forward, wanting to find a good spot so he can watch the competition.

"What is the fool doing here?"

"Stay away from this idiot if not you will be infected with his foolishness."

Looking at the approaching Du Shaofu, Du Clan family members on the sides avoided him like the plague, scurrying away with a look of indifference, contempt, and even disgust. No one is willing to stand close to him.

"Second Master is here."

At that moment, a group of Du Clan elders is seen approaching the training field, causing a furor among the onlookers.

"Seen Second Master and Elders."

All around the training field, including Du Chong, Du Hao, and Du Yan immediately fall in line to greet the Du Clan Elders respectfully.

"Good."

Leading at the front of the group of elders is a robust middle-aged man, waving his long-sleeved robe, his face happy while looking at these clan juniors, filled with anticipation. His eyes swept around the crowd, and his gaze finally fell on Du Shaofu.

This time, Second Uncle is personally overseeing the competition.

Du Shaofu eyes softened some seeing the robust man, his pro-uncle Du

Zhixiong. Since he was little, his uncle treated him the same as he did his own flesh and blood. Du Zhixiong is also a famous warrior in Stone City, his mad and fierce fighting style deterring forces that are dissatisfied with Du Clan.

Do Zhixiong's eyes unexpectedly pause for a moment on Du Shaofu but did not say anything, then continue towards Du Hao, Du Chong and those eager young men and women; breaking the silence: "Brothers and sisters sparring, do not go overboard. First round is a knockout battle; the last remaining twelve will draw lots to decide the opponent in a round of individual battle, understand the rules?"

"Understand!"

Hearing the robust man's question, a cohesive sound of reply resounded from the group of juniors. But their eyes were focused on a table not far away. On top of the table, two small cases and a fine jade bottle were placed. Eyeing these items with blazing eyes, for they could already guess what's inside.

The robust man nodded with satisfaction and continued: "This time the top three amongst you, first place will receive the Violent Stone Demon Wolf's essence of blood for building base baptism, second place, and third place will each receive a building base dan, and the rest that shows a good performance will also be rewarded."

"Violent Stone Demon Wolf's blood essence to build-the-base, thereafter, it is possible to have Violent Stone Demon Wolf's talent and ability."

"For these juniors, this time, the clan really did dump a huge capital. Let's see who gets the demon wolf's blood essence for build-the-base baptism."

Everyone's blood was boiling up, whether it is the blood essence or the base building dan, the temptation is too great.

"Violent Stone Demon Wolf blood essence, I must get it!"

Du Hao clenched his hands into a fist, eyes blazing hot. Even for one such as the Du Clan, providing Violent Stone Demon Wolf's essence of blood for base building baptism is not something that happens often, and there's a limit to the number of times it can be supplied to a member of the clan. That is why this time around, he absolutely must get the demon wolf's blood essence for his own

baptism and breakthrough Xiantian territory.

“Prizes are extremely generous and attractive ah.”

Listening to those prizes, even Du Shaofu’s heartbeat accelerated a little. If it were the previous him, it would not have mattered, but now since he can cultivate it represents a whole new meaning to it.

Note:

1. Not placing someone in their eye-considered as unimportant.

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Chapter 11: Robbery

Looking at these juniors already eager to show off, Du Zhixiong smiled and said loudly: “I hereby declare the annual sparring competition begins!

“Boom!”

Once his voice falls, the atmosphere in the training field boils over, each young girl and boys’ blood surged, their xuanqi gushing out collectively that the surrounding air rippled with a series of fluctuations as if about to burst.

Suddenly, more than a hundred streaks dazzling xuanqi of varying colors broke out, silhouettes rapidly scattered around, to prevent the people nearby launching a sneak attack and ended up eliminated. In this type of knockout battle, each person for himself and the situation can get very chaotic.

“Bang! Bang! Bang!”

With this, the competition officially began.

“Brother Du Hao, you can do it!”

“Du Xue, I’m cheering for you.”

Around the training field, seeing that fights immediately break out, the gathered onlookers started cheering for their favorite person that their voice cracked.

“Ei, that fool is not going up, I thought he would participate in the competition.”

“That fool wouldn’t dare to go up for he is just here to watch.”

The Du family crowd of onlookers noticed that Du Shaofu’s absence in the competition, the look in their eyes became increasingly disdainful and disgusted.

After a while, no one pays him further attention as everyone's eyes focused on the fierce competition.

Du Zhixiong and the group of elders had retreated and seated on earlier prepared seats. A woman dressed in white sat down and was observing the training field, then turning towards the robust man at her side: "Second Master, this generation's juniors overall strength is quite good ah"

"Quite good indeed, there is a few from the side branch families that are not weak."

Du Zhixiong's eyes turn complicated as his gaze falls upon Du Shaofu who did not join in, hearing the woman's voice, he pulled his sight back to the training field.

"But as a side branch, in the end still cannot compete with main descendants ah" An old man looking at the field could not help but interrupt.

Du Zhixiong smiled faintly and no longer speak. All eyes were absorbed in the intense fighting on the field, even Du Shaofu watched with keen interest.

"Bang! Bang! Bang!"

As the competition reaches its peak, people continued to be eliminated. The sounds of fighting along with the buzz of excitement painted a feverish scene.

After several rounds of fierce battle, finally, as expected the last remaining three are Du Hao, Du Chong, and Du Yan, attracting looks of envy all around.

"According to the rules of competition Du Hao takes first place, second place goes to Du Chong and the third place to Du Yan."

A Du family elder announced the results loudly with a smile.

"I have said, the Violent Stone Demon Wolf's essence of blood is mine."

Du Hao exposed a broad smile as he walked towards the long table in front the Du family elders, his hand directly grabs the palm-sized jade bottle filled with the demon wolf's blood essence.

Du Chong and Du Yan were not much slower than Du Hao each taking their base building dan.

Seeing the Violent Stone Demon Wolf blood essence, and base building dan

disappeared into the hands of the trio, numerous eyes were green with envy.

“Brother Du Hao is so cool!”

“Brother Du Hao Congratulations! Congratulations Brother Du Chong.”

After taking the rewards, the trio walked proudly down to the training field, causing quite a commotion among the girls and boys welcoming them, along the way were filled with shouts of congratulation and compliments.

Du Shaofu’s eyes glance over at Duo Hao’s side, something stirred in his eyes as he turned and left.

“Brother Hao, look, the fool ran away.”

“That fool dares not get on stage and now he’s even running away, must be afraid of getting beaten up.”

“Did this fool know beforehand that Brother Hao and Brother Chong is planning to waste one of his arms, that’s why he ran away so quick.”

“Ha ha ha ha, still knows to flee can’t be considered totally stupid.”

Once the crowd surrounding the trio found out that Du Shaofu ran away, immediately broke into sarcastic laughter and ridicule.

“Let that fool run, count today is his lucky day. We will go and have ourselves a celebratory drink, my treat!”

Du Chong and Du Hao did indeed intend to settle some scores with Du Shaofu, but who would have thought that this Du Shaofu would flee? Since the three of them will be in a good mood today, although they were staring fiercely at Du Shaofu’s back, but not planning to make any moves just yet, in any case, there’s no rush to handle a fool. In any case, there’s no rush to handle a fool.

“That’s right, Brother Hao and Brother Chong are magnanimous, that fool sure is lucky today.”

“Right, now we should go and celebrate, to congratulate Brother Hao, Brother Chong and Brother Yan for receiving rewards.”

A group of people continued to surround the trio, just like the stars encircled the moon as they head out from the training field with much fanfare.

To leave the training field, one has to pass through a large iron gate. Just as Du Hao, Du Chong and Du Yan and the rest were heading out, a figure suddenly jumped out right in front of them.

This figure in purple is a boy with bright clear eyes, resolute face while putting on a faint smile.

“Hey, the fool is back.”

“He came back to court death.”

All eyes looked at the purple robe youth, many people’s expressions changed. The youth turned out to be Du Shaofu.

Du Chong, Hao Du, and Du Yan saw the one blocking the road is Du Shaofu, exchanged knowing gazes between them then their chilly eyes looked at Du Shaofu.

Du Shaofu did not bother with the sarcastic laughs all around, just stared directly at the trio, with bright eyes and faintly smiling face saying: “Robbery!”

That word was spoken in a faint voice, but when spread out sound extremely loud that the crowd suddenly quieted down.

More than a pair of surprised eyes stared at Du Shaofu, all of them thought he was mistaken. Just in a breath’s time, the group was laughing so hard that their bodies’ shake and trembled as if it was the funniest thing in this world.

“Ha ha ha ha

“Did you hear this, this fool said robbery.”

“Robbing Brother Hao and Brother Chong, this fool thinks he’s got too long a life!”

“Did I hear this correctly, every time it is us robbing him ah. He is definitely getting sillier.”

“Why do I feel this silly fool is quite adorable.”

“....”

“You... What did you say, you want to rob us? We did not hear correctly right, ha ha

The three of them, Hao Du, Du Chong, and Du Yan laughed so hard that tears almost flowed out.

Chapter 12: Rob the Top Three

“Robbery!”

On Du Shaofu’s resolute face a smile appeared, condensing one after another handseals. The world’s energy seemed to be vibrating attracted by the handseals, rushing endlessly towards Du Shaofu. Strands of xuanqi flow rapidly through the few specific meridians finally gathering together around the palm, the air rippling as if boiling water.

At this moment, Du Shaofu’s atmosphere suddenly became fierce and frightening, like a sleeping wild beast awakening.

At the same time, Du Hao, Du Chong and Du Yan’s eyes swelled up with shock.

“Raging Storm Waves Palm!”

Du Shaofu strike out his palm, xuanqi surging out and suddenly a thunderous sound is heard. Following the palm trail, layers of waves consist of wind scattered in the air, like waves crashing against Du Hao, Du Chong and Du Yan and the rest of the group again and again.

“Puchi!” “Puchi!” “Puchi!”

Bearing the brunt of being in front Du Hao, Du Chong and Du Yan trio simply had not the time to defend, blood spewed from their mouths, and in the end, their bodies inverted out falling heavily on the ground a few meters away. Bleeding, face pale, and struggling to get up unsuccessfully.

“Rumble!”

Cries echoed as the young boys and girls who were laughing sarcastically behind the Du Hao trio were swept away one by one as if pebbles by the storm-like wind. Each one falling heavily and painfully scattered on the ground while

the sarcastic expression they had had yet to converge.

This moment totally blew away all of their ridicule, contempt, and disdain.

When everything calmed down the training field's iron gates surrounding area was in ruins.

This sudden commotion has long roused the attention of all the Du Clan members still on the training field. Everyone's jaw dropped, unable to close looking at the scene at the iron gates.

Du Shaofu without missing a beat walked directly to Du Hao, Du Chong and Du Yan's body. Under the stunned gazes of those around, Du Shaofu's hand searched their bodies and dug out two small cases containing base building dan and a jade bottle filled with Violent Stone Demon Wolf blood essence and very nonchalantly took them away.

"Within three days return all the dan that you three grabbed from me, if not, every time I see you, I will rob you. I'm serious."

Finishing his words, Du Shaofu patted his butt and walked away.

Leaving only those on the training field not far away, looking as if they have seen a ghost, everyone in a wind of confusion.

When Du Shaofu's figure completely disappeared from everyone's astonished sight, some of them finally someone realized that Du Shaofu who was being laughed at earlier had publicly robbed the top three of the clan sparring competition.

"The top three amongst the younger generation....."

Then everyone around the training field looked at the Du Hao, Du Chong and Du Yan. The three of them can't even get up from the ground.

Those who had laughed in disgust at Du Shaofu, thinking back their words of ridicule earlier, they could not help but feel their face burning as if they have been slapped severely.....

...

Dusk, the sun setting in the west, sunlight trickling away.

"Second Brother, is there any special movement recently from that several

families?”

In one of the Du Clan’s compound courtyards, a forty plus dashing man asked Du Zhixiong while sitting down.

Du Zhixiong shook his head and said: “That several families do not have much movement recently instead something interesting happened in our clan today, don’t know if Big Brother cares to listen.”

“Oh, today should be the younger generations’ sparring competition. Could it be there is someone among the little ones performed outstandingly?”

The dashing man immediately showed an interest, as the Patriarch of the Du Clan, of course, he is very much concern about the younger generation of the Du Clan. This person is precisely the Du Clan Patriarch, Du Zhenwu. His name is well-known throughout Stone City.

Du Zhixiong’s smile was somewhat complicated it seems he is unsure how to word it: “The little ones are pretty good, but the interesting one is Third Brother’s little kid, Shaofu.....”

“Shaofu

When he heard that Du Zhenwu slightly sighed, bright eyes on that dashing face welled up with pity and complexity then turned to look at the robust man again: “Is it his illness has turned for the worse? He is truly pitiful. If given a chance, even if paying a steep price, I would also like to have a Spirit Talisman Master to take a look at him.”

“Big Brother, I think it is not necessary.”

Du Zhixiong eyes move, then said to Du Zhenwu: “Today the little ones’ competition, Du Hao, Du Chong, Du Yan scored three top three, but”

“But what, Second Brother, since when did you speak so hesitantly” Du Zhenwu looked at Du Zhixiong, this hesitant nature is not his usual character.

“Du Hao, Du Chong and Du Yan were rewarded with Violent Stone Demon Wolf’s essence of blood, and base building dan, but just as they reached the iron gates, it was robbed away by Shaofu.”

Du Zhixiong took a deep breath and looked at Du Zhenwu, suppressing his

heart that was still unable to calm down, and said: “With just one move Du Hao, Du Chong and Du Yan flew away and about a dozen others also injured. The skill Shaofu used was ‘Raging Storm Waves Palm.’”

“Raging Storm Waves Palm, Second Brother, you’re not kidding me!” Du Zhenwu suddenly stood up, stiffened face and staring straight Du Zhixiong, a hint of golden gleam in his eyes.

Du Zhixiong Stern earnestly nodded and said: “Just one stroke of the Raging Storm Waves Palm. I saw it with my own eyes!”

“Quickly, quickly find Shaofu, I want to see him immediately!” Du Zhenwu eyes quivered, then that stiffened face slowly revealing a smile.

With the annual sparring competition ended, the final result has left the entire Du Clan dumbfounded.

Du Hao, Du Chong, and Du Yan, the top three of the younger generation, three of Du Clan’s strongest younger generation, in the end, was defeated in one move, under a second, by Du Shaofu who was long considered as a fool. Is this ‘fool’ young master genuinely ...?

The entire Du Clan was in shock and in the shortest span of time, this message was made known to the whole Stone City.

Of course, Du Shaofu is naturally unaware he has alerted the different forces of Stone City.

“Have yet to practice any exercise law, what to do with these things?”

Night. In the room, looking at the harvest of robbery on the table, faced with two base building dan and a bottle of blood essence, instead of being ecstatic about the items could further enhance his cultivation, his face revealed a slight trace of struggle.

But Du Shaofu understands that he is different from the general people. These are good things, but he has yet to practice any exercise law and the xuanqi in his body has already reached the peak, whether it is the Violent Stone Demon Wolf’s essence of blood for baptism or base building dan, it is useless to him at the moment.

“No, I have to get the Purple Qi Sunworship Scripture as soon as possible.”

Du Shaofu secretly made up his mind, the most important being the exercises law and his goal is of course Du Clan’s strongest Purple Qi Sunworship Scripture.

Chapter 13: The Innocent is Abducted

“Go and look for Fu Yibai.”

Brows creased into a furrow Du Shaofu decided to practice an exercise law at the earliest possible. Grabbing the two small cases and the jade bottle, he's going to pay Fu Yibai a night visit and asks if he knew where the Purple Qi Sunworship Scripture is.

Leaving the room, Du Shaofu headed straight towards the Martial Collection Building.

There are guards in Du Clan and strong warriors, but even so, Du Shaofu has snaked passed several courtyards in the night reaching the Martial Collection Building with ease.

“How does the sound of flute reached here, where does it come from.”

Just as he arrive the Martial Collection Building, he once again heard the familiar flute sound playing, that flute melody soft as an endless running stream or sometimes sharp and clear like creek water and suddenly the tuned changed laced with a trace of resentment just like a young girl's heart thinking about her lover.

The flute melody seemed to turn sadder and somehow nearer.

Although the flute melody became clearer and more aggrieved but Du Shaofu did not pay much attention to it. Fu Yibai's room is on the first floor, at the back of the Martial Collection Building, however, Du Shaofu rarely comes here. Entering Fu Yibai's room, the room is clean as there are not many things around that could mess up the room, however, there was no sign of Fu Yibai.

“Where did he run off to at this time of the night?” The room is not large, with

one glance and it is obvious Fu Yibai is not in the room.

“Chi”

Behind Du Shaofu there is some movement, turning around Du Shaofu said: ‘Lao Bai, where did you go...’

Du Shaofu’s words have yet to finish his face had stiffened up, the one behind him was not Fu Yibai but a lady. A beautiful lady that looks about forty, dressed in a long plain white dress, a light blue ribbon fluttering slightly, extremely elegant and bright and clean looking. She seemed to have an innate air of nobility that made the hearts of the ones looking could not help but be in awe.

“Who are you?” Du Shaofu was stunned for a while, then immediately wary. This beautiful lady is not from Du Clan, and Martial Collection Building is a restricted area. An unknown lady appearing in Du Clan’s restricted area at night Du Shaofu could not afford to be careless.

“What is your relationship with Fu Yibai?”

The white-clothed lady’s dress is very common, but when her crisp cold voice falls on Du Shaofu ears, he was unable to refuse her and immediately replied: “I’m Fu Yibai’s Big ... friend.”

Du Shaofu was going to say Fu Yibai’s Big Brother, however, he has promised Fu Yibai earlier that in front of other people will give him some face thus he immediately changed it to a friend.

“You are his friend?” The white-clothed lady looked Du Shaofu, a little light glimmered in her eyes then lowering her lashes that are black as ink, a faint shadow shrouded her pupils: “This is the kind of things he does.”

“Big Sister, are you Lao Bai’s friend?” Du Shaofu asked, from the white-clothed lady’s tone it sounds like she is familiar with Fu Yibai, wondering when Fu Yibai got to know a person with such noble temperament, never before had he heard Fu Yibai mentioned someone like her.

The white-clothed lady did not bother to answer Du Shaofu, her watery eyes glanced around Fu Yibai’s room and a little curve emerged at the corner of her lips and said: “Since you are related to him and he is avoiding me, I can only take you with me.”

After she said that, Du Shaofu didn't even see the white-clothed lady's movement, instantly as if space froze, Du Shaofu was unable to move, even xuanqi within the body cannot be initiated. A slender hand softly fell on Du Shaofu's shoulder.

"Ei"

When the slender hand came in touch with Du Shaofu's shoulder, surprised flitted past the white-clothed lady's brown eyes, with a sway both figures disappeared from the room.

Bright moon hanging in the sky, surrounded by twinkling stars.

In mid-air, the white-clothed lady grabbed one of Du Shaofu's shoulder, that slender hand looks dainty and weak but his body was involuntarily being pulled up to the air, passing through Stone City's numerous buildings at high velocity, at last reaching the depth of the forest of the mountains.

The mountain stretches into the horizon, under the moonlight, the boundless forest revealed itself.

"A powerful cultivator, very powerful."

In mid-air, Du Shaofu winced from the wind force blown against his face, but still couldn't disguise the look of shock and surprised. This ability to move freely in the air, Airfloat, even his Eldest and Second Uncle are unable to Du, only those legendary warriors are able to have such an enviable ability.

The mountain peaks reach thousands of feet, with dangerous summits, near masses of strange rocks a huge cliff stood majestic as if a dragon preparing to rush up to the sky.

The white-clothed lady landed on one of the hilltops with Du Shaofu, before releasing him, her palm slapped on Du Shaofu's chest indirectly forcing Du Shaofu mouth to open. Something that looks like dan flew into his throat, forcing him to swallow it into his belly.

"Big... Predecessor, what did you fed me?"

Du Shaofu's face paled, and his finger was about to gouge his throat to force it back up. Gouging till his eyes welled with tears without any success. It's just like

the dan melted into nothingness the moment it entered his stomach.

The white-clothed lady ignored Du Shaofu, with light, graceful steps, walked towards a clean rock, as she sat down cross-legged and her brown eyes looked towards the distant mountains unfathomable what is on her mind.

“Predecessor, Fu Yibai and I are actually not that close, if there is resentment between you and him, I’m afraid you are withholding the wrong person, ah.”

Du Shaofu looked at the beautiful white-clothed lady, at first he thought this white-clothed lady is Fu Yibai’s friend or something similar, however, it is obvious to him now there is some grudge between them, greeting Fu Yibai eighteen generations ancestors [1] silently in his heart for bringing him this misfortune.

The white-clothed lady turned to Du Shaofu and said: “If you are of no importance to him, then you have no further value. I will kill you right now.”

Her voice was so cold that Du Shaofu’s heart shivered listening to it. Instantly Du Shaofu’s expression change: “Predecessor, although Bai Lao and I are not that close, but we still have a friendship, one blanket covers two people, a pair of pants worn by two people.”[2]

“As long as you do not try to escape, you will be alive and well for now. If Fu Yibai does not come and save you, then your life is hard to guarantee.” The white-clothed lady said to Du Shaofu.

“Lao Bai definitely will come. This place should be very far away from Stone City. If Lao Bai comes, it will take him at least ten days to half a month’s time. We just need to wait patiently till Lao Bai arrives.”

Du Shaofu said with a look of certainty at the white-clothed lady while crying tearlessly in his heart. This area within the Wild Beast Mountains is quite a long distance from Stone City. There are rumors that there’s a terrible evil beast lurks in here that even some of the more powerful wicked beasts dare not nests here, not to mention whether if that old man Fu Yibai have the ability to rescue him from this powerful lady.

The beautiful white-clothed lady looked Du Shaofu but remained quiet. A flute appeared in her hands with a swirl of her long sleeves. Placing the antique flute close to her slightly opened lips, suddenly a heavenly sound of a flute filled the

night.

Notes:

1. 'Greeting... eighteen generations of ancestors-cursing at/scolding
 2. "One blanket covers two people, a pair of pants worn by two people"- there are a few versions of this saying(?), in short BFF.
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Chapter 14: Fleeing In The Mid of The Night

“Turns out it was her.”

When he heard the sound of the flute, Du Shaofu’s eyes widened in surprised. The melodious flute sounds that he heard these past few days as it turns out was played by this lady.

Listening to the flute sound, his soul felt enlivened, the gentle melody is like a mountain spring bubbling, before it gradually turning quick and rapid like a dense early spring drizzle.

The flute melody possesses a strange allure that Du Shaofu could not help but listen to it, like a pure sound of nature, blended in with the surroundings then gentle and soft portraying a young girl’s heart, then the tone gradually changed, traces of grievance seeped into the melody ...

Du Shaofu immersed within the notes of the flute was intoxicated. This is the most enchanting flute he ever heard in his life, wishing the sound will not stop.

When Du Shaofu woke up, the moon is already westbound, a sign that dawn is approaching.

“Such a strange flute sound.”

Du Shaofu patted his cheeks. Under the influence of the flute melody, unconsciously he got pulled in, losing his perception in general. Looking around, the white-clothed lady is still sitting on crossed-legged on the rock, eyes closed.

“Howl.”

“Aoao.”

From the depths of the mountains, beast roars sounded from time to time giving the impression of restlessness.

“Did she fall asleep?”

Du Shaofu observed the beautiful white-clothed lady sitting cross-legged with her closed eyes. Du Shaofu doesn't even know where Fu Yibai is at the moment, even if that old man comes, what he can do in front of this powerful lady.

“First, let's run away.”

A glint in his clear eyes, Du Shaofu had decided, after all, nothing is more valuable than his little life. The quicker he escapes the better. Taking advantage of the dim moonlight he carefully tip-toed around and begin descending the mountain.

The tall peaks were like dragons raising their heads towards the sky, if not for the current Du Shaofu being able to produce xuanqi within his body, there's no way in a million years will he be able to descend the mountain.

But even so, by the time Du Shaofu managed to reach the foot of the mountain down, the tiredness took half of his life away.

“Howl!”

From the vast forest, occasional beast roars are heard, some roars made Du Shaofu's heart shuddered. The deeper parts of the Wild Beast Mountain are no ordinary place it is unknown when one will come across a roaming wild beast.

Although managed to escape from the hilltop, Du Shaofu did not relax in the slightest.

“Cannot run towards Stone City's direction.”

Du Shaofu was about to escape towards Stone City's direction but managed to stop himself. Once the lady realized that he had escaped, she will surely chase towards the city's direction. Thus, if he escapes towards Stone City, with the strength of the white-clothed lady, capable of airfloat, to recapture him is as easy as snapping her fingers.

However, Du Shaofu had doubts about running deeper into the Wild Beast Mountain. He heard rumors that in the deep forest, the higher the chance one will encounter wild animals and wicked beasts. In the deep forest, the wicked beasts will be more powerful, as the within the innermost lives an existence that

no wicked beasts or high-level warriors dare to disturb.

“Only between dangers, will there be a chance of survival.”

Du Shaofu knows that he does not have much time to delay and he cannot be captured again, thus he can only gamble this time. First, hide within the Wild Beasts Mountain to let the storm pass, worst case scenario can always return ...

....

Stone City, Du Clan's compound.

Within a brightly lit hall, the atmosphere is tense.

“Big Brother, we looked everywhere there is no trace of Shaofu. Someone was seen walking through the air across our Du Clan compound. In addition to Shaofu's disappearance, I'm worried that...”

In the hall, Du Zhixiong's face is solemn. He searched the entire Du Clan compound for Shaofu but did not manage to find even his shadow could not help but think of the various possibilities.

“Airfloat ability requires a Spiritual Pulse (Mai-ling) cultivation, however, the entire Stone City there is yet someone that strong.” Du Zhenwu's face is equally solemn, if Shaofu's disappearance is related to a Spiritual Pulse Warrior, then it is really a troublesome matter.

Du Zhixiong suddenly looked up at Du Zhenwu said: “Big Brother, Airfloat ability not necessarily must be a Spiritual Pulse Warrior, someone with a special martial pulse can also do it. It's just that as of now we are still unable to confirm Shaofu's whereabouts and which forces are working against us, Du Clan.”

“The news of Shaofu's recovery should have been spread. The potential that Shaofu showed today doesn't allow those forces to sit back and relax anymore as it affects the Five Family event three months later, so they can't help but make their moves. Investigate. Make sure to check thoroughly, no matter whom it is I will not have mercy.”

Du Zhenwu is truly angered. In the depth of his eyes a degree of coldness accompanied his anger, then his pupil moved as if suddenly thought of something: “Remember to inform Third Brother. This matter must notify him.”

He said to Du Zhixiong.

“En, I will arrange everything accordingly, very soon Shaofu will be found.”

Do Zhixiong nodded, then hurried away.

Mountains stretched towards the horizon connecting to the sea. Surrounding tall ancient trees are breathtaking as they hide the sky above and cover the earth below. Thickly overgrown vines of unknown years wrapped around every enormous tree, trees that are so huge that it takes several adults to embrace it fully.

Forging ahead as fast as he could in the vast forest, he dares not stop even for a moment. His only thought is to get away as far away from the lady as possible.

“Howl”

Waves of beast roars are constantly heard coming from the deeper part of the mountains. The sound of roars getting louder and more frequent, it was as if the entire mountain beasts are restless and in a riot.

In this situation Du Shaofu cannot help but be slightly scared, in case a powerful Wicked beast appears in front of him, the consequences need no explanation.

Du Shaofu is unaware how long he has been running when dawn finally came, and with the endless roars of the beast subsided and in a strange manner the whole mountain seemed to calm down.

“Puchi”

However, at this moment when Du Shaofu wanted to take a short break, his body's xuanqi suddenly surged with violence like it was about to explode. As the intense xuanqi swirled along the meridians, suddenly his mouth tasted slightly sweet, blood seeps up his throat and a mouthful of blood spewed out. His body limped softly, staggering a few steps before falling onto the ground.

“Ran the whole night, now there's no more energy to run further, right?”

At the same time, a cold voice is heard, a figure appeared in front of Du Shaofu in a ghost-like manner. Her slender hands gently pointed at a few spots, strands of strong but gentle qi flowed along within Du Shaofu body's meridian points.

As these strands of gentle qi flowed within Du Shaofu's meridians, the violent xuanqi which was wrecking havoc was suppressed down.

“Bang!”

At the same time, when Du Shaofu fell on his back with his four limbs against the sky, the alluring lady's figure appeared in Du Shaofu's eyes.

“You can be considered quite smart, running the opposite way deeper into the forest instead of back to the city but you overestimated yourself. In this world, there are few that managed to escape me, not to mention a little brat who has only xuanqi but no cultivation like you.”

The white-clothed lady looked at Du Shaofu on the ground, a little smile in her brown eyes. Looking at Du Shaofu as if for the first time: “. Looking at Du Shaofu as if for the first time: “Now, you'll be fine, because you swallowed a poisoned dan, that was an aftereffect, if you don't believe, you can try and continue running.”

Light steps carried her directly towards the depths of the mountains, and her cold voice floated towards Du Shaofu: “There's something strange with the beasts in the mountain. I'm going to have a look, you better stay close to me, else if you encounter a wicked beast then there's no guaranteeing your little life.”

Chapter 15: Voltaic White Demon Snake

“The thing you fed me last night was a poisoned dan! A beauty comparable to immortal fairies but the heart is venomous as a scorpion. There is no grudge or grievance between us... Hey, wait for me...”

Nevertheless, he had swallowed a poisonous dan, and he failed miserably at escaping, his little life is at the mercy of others. Du Shaofu started venting out, however, seeing the white-clothed lady left, he could only forcefully drag himself up and follow behind her.

In the silent mountains, the white-clothed lady walked in front, her pace leisurely.

Du Shaofu’s eyes glared fiercely at the back of the white-clothed lady while following her from the back. His discontent towards the white-clothed lady made him grit his teeth in silence for he understands his current strength even calculating the mysterious first style, it is impossible for him to be this white-clothed lady’s opponent.

“Fu Yibai, wait until I get back, definitely will settle this score with you.”

Du Shaofu had to be wary of his surroundings, in case a wicked beast suddenly drilled out from nowhere it would be disastrous. And all of these hardships and misfortune he suffers, Du Shaofu naturally counted it on Fu Yibai’s head. If not for Fu Yibai provoking the white-clothed lady in front, he wouldn’t be in this situation. God only knows how he managed to provoke her and from the looks of it, it will not easily settle.

“Whoosh!”

Suddenly, from the towering trees above, a streak of light quick as a lightning shot towards Du Shaofu.

“Pulsate Fist”

Detecting it, Du Shaofu was momentarily startled, his hands, however, were rapidly condensing handseal, clenching his fingers into a fist and directly blasted out pulsate fist, and his momentum soared.

“Bang!”

Low muffled sounds of thirteen layers overlapping waves finally crashing against the swift light that fell from above.

The streak of light lagged for a moment then fell to the ground, it turned out to be a white-patterned snake a full five feet long. Its whole body twitched for a while on the ground, having difficulty to move.

“Whoosh!” “Whoosh!”

Another sound of piercing wind, a total of five streaks of light, quick as lightning aiming at Du Shaofu from above and in an instant arrived behind Du Shaofu.

“Chi la~!”

Space twisted and rippled just like waves, a blade of light appeared as if cutting across space, slashing the five lightning-like streaks into pieces falling around Du Shaofu. All five are white-patterned snakes.

“Voltaic White Demon Snake.”

Looking at the white patterned snake on the ground, Du Shaofu is no stranger to its kind. Du Clan’s collection of the varieties of wicked beasts does not fall short, especially of those often seen at the edge of Wild Beasts Mountain. Voltaic White Demon Snake are a Houtian level wicked beast and it rarely evolves higher, basically a low-level wicked beast.

Voltaic White Demon Snake is known to be non-toxic however its speed is extremely fast. Once it bites, it releases a voltaic current, causing xuanqi unable to gather and the whole body feels limp. Thinking about the earlier scene Du Shaofu’s heartbeat quickened a little.

Although he managed to bring down a demon snake, this is his first time, after all, dealing directly with a wicked beast.

“Reaction speed is not bad, for someone without any cultivation but still able

to deal with a Voltaic White Demon Snake. However, you almost lost your life just now.”

The beautiful white-clothed lady looked at Du Shaofu quietly and then continued to move onward.

Du Shaofu does not know what to say he indeed tensed up earlier. If a similar situation were to repeat itself again, his little life might just be the price to pay.

Looking at Voltaic White Demon Snake on the ground that was rendered unable to move by his pulsate fist, Du Shaofu’s eyes glinted and mercilessly added another fist to ensure the snake is undeniably dead; only then did he quickly followed the white-clothed lady while becoming more vigilant towards his surroundings.

The irony is, being in the deeper part of Wild Beast Mountains yet wishing to avoid wicked beast is obviously impossible. The morning barely passed but they had already encountered several waves of wicked beast’s attack.

The thing most baffling to Du Shaofu are those wicked beast never attacks the white-clothed lady in front, every time, these wicked beast targets him as if they knew whom not to mess with. Though these wicked beasts look terrifying, fortunately, they only have Houtian level strength that Du Shaofu is barely able to cope with.

Encountering attacks more often than not, Du Shaofu progressed rapidly, whether it is reaction speed or coping ability that even the white-clothed lady’s glimmered with praise.

“Raging Storm Waves Palm.”

Within the forest Du Shaofu shouted lightly, strands of xuanqi condensed into three shadows of a palm in the mid of his palm, fierce momentum rising like a fierce beast awakening. Space rippled like boiling water fluctuating non-stop. A palm print immediately fell on a wicked animal’s body soil yellow in color, three meters long and a half meters high, covered with scales.

“Bang!”

Blades of winds visible to the naked eye trails the palm print, finally landed on the scale-armored beast. A thunderous sound of impact resounded as the wave-

like wind blades crashed against the wicked beast time and again.

“Roar!”

The scale-armored wicked beast in extreme pain, mouth issuing loud growls while its body swiftly retreated to the back. A pair of red-blood eyes staring fiercely at Du Shaofu.

“Howl” “Howl”

Suddenly, from the depths of the mountains came numerous roars of wicked beast.

“Ao!”

The scale-armored beast directed a loud roar at Du Shaofu, its blood-red eyes glaring fiercely at him. The next moment, it quickly drilled into a half a meter wide bottomless cave not far away, as if it was afraid of the many beast roars.

“What formidable scale-armored beast, indeed a wicked beast bordering Xiantian level.”

Du Shaofu felt relieved looking at the fleeing scale-armored beast. His palm is shaking from the fight just now, just using one Raging Storm Waves Palm has consumed most of his strength.

A martial skill of Xiantian level coupled with Du Shaofu’s strongest means, the mysterious first style, not only did not injure the bordering Xiantian scale-armored beast, but his palm is numbed from the exchange.

This made Du Shaofu feel bitter. If he had the time to improve Raging Storm Waves Palm and enhance its power, perhaps the beast would not be able to leave unharmed.

“A person without cultivation realm but possesses xuanqi, and are able to practice Xiantian level martial skill; can be considered a freak.”

White-clothed lady stayed on the side with no intention of intervening; even when the scale-armored beast fled it was as is she did not notice it at all. On the contrary, Du Shaofu piqued her interest more, from the beginning till now, Du Shaofu had managed to surprise her slightly several of times.

“Where are we going?”

Du Shaofu is very uncomfortable with this white-clothed lady in his heart, but at the same time, he's powerless in this situation. Each time they come across a wicked beast unless he is in real danger of losing his life, the white-clothed lady will not lift a hand.

Just two hours prior, Du Shaofu's calf got scratched by a beast, leaving deep bloody wounds but the white-clothed lady did not bother at all. And all the dissatisfactions, Du Shaofu can only endure for his strength is insufficient to beat the other person.

Along the way, however, Du Shaofu did notice that he's progressing while dealing with wicked beasts. No doubt this type of training is greatly beneficial to him.

"Inside is getting livelier it appears quite a sum of people has been attracted over, it looks like they are searching for something."

The white-clothed lady ignored Du Shaofu, listening attentively to the endless roars coming from the depths of the mountains, turned to Du Shaofu and said: "You wait here while I'm going to take a look at the situation."

Chapter 16: An Elf-like Girl

“Sou!”

With voice cold as ever, white-clothed lady’s figure swayed and instantly disappeared from Du Shaofu’s sight.

“Didn’t you know how to fly, just fly with me along; why would you leave me here?”

Du Shaofu is rendered speechless. He dared not wander around recklessly, not to mention there’s that poison dan he swallowed. After experiencing a days’ wicked beast attacks, he gained an understanding of the Wild Beast Mountains. This area considered as the outer mountains edge and yet the dangers are fatal enough for him, he can shudder to imagine the level of danger that lies in within deeper parts.

“Rustle!”

Suddenly, Du Shaofu heard something. His eyes instantly looked towards the bushes on the side.

“Ao ao”

The bushes shook with the low hum of a beast coming out from it. Under Du Shaofu’s nervous eyes, five three feet tall beasts rushed out from the bushes.

“Bang!”

The ground was shaking, and as the five huge beasts rushed out, the momentum sweeping towards Du Shaofu.

Three of them are dark as ink, with their manes erect. Body reaching ten feet long, two long fang-like ivory grew on its snout glinted dangerously, sending shivers to those looking at them.

“Five Mountainbore Demon Hogs.”

Du Shaofu’s face instantly changed. Mountainbore Demon Hog is a Xiantian level wicked beast. An adult Mountainbore Demon Hog is natural born into Xiantian realm it is definitely not weaker than the scale-armored beast earlier.

Going against one scale-armored beast had taken every effort he had, but now defending against five Mountainbore Demon Hogs running straight at him, Du Shaofu’s feeling at this moment can’t be unimaginable; the front Mountainbore Demon Hog’s closing in fast on him.

“Raging Storm Waves Palm!”

As the Mountainbore Demon Hog at the front has reached him, there’s no time to hesitate. Du Shaofu released a Raging Storm Waves Palm and strike against the first incoming demon hog at the same time the Mountainbore Demon Hog’s body emits a wave of light and gushing out beasts’ xuanqi.

“Bang!”

The Mountainbore Demon Hog flew out colliding with Du Shaofu’s palm, but Du Shaofu’s did not fare any better. He barely managed to cope when dealing with the scale-armored beast, and now against something that is known for its outrageous powerful physique like the demon hog, Du Shaofu’s body immediately bounced back and fell heavily on the ground, blood dripping from the corner of his mouth.

“Bang”

The Mountainbore Demon Hog that was hit by Du Shaofu fell to the ground issuing a piercing scream but instantly got back on its feet.

“Bang!”

“Ao ao.”

The remaining four Mountainbore Demon Hog with their jaws wide open snapping away at Du Shaofu with their cold-glint fangs. Du Shaofu’s situation is unfavorable, with his pale face and little remaining strength left. One Mountainbore Demon Hog is already more than he can handle, but four...

“Xiu Xiu Xiu Xiu!”

In this split second time frame, something came whistling through the wind, a few lightning-quick streaks swept through the group of demon hogs as if possessing eyes, each of the arrows pierced right between the eyebrow of the four Mountainbore Demon Hogs. It's life seeps away as it tumbles down before they could even issue any sound.

“Xiu!”

At the same time, another streak of light aimed at the Mountainbore Demon Hog that got back up after being hit by Du Shaofu, just when it was about to attack, an arrow arrives piercing in between the eyebrow, and it tumbled back down to the ground.

This sudden change lets Duo Shaofu breathed a sigh of relief, thinking it would be the white-clothed lady returning.

However, when his eyes fell on the bodies of the Mountainbore Demon Hogs, Du Shaofu was a little shocked. All five Mountainbore Demon Hogs died from the arrows piercing through their eyebrows, at the end of the arrows are made with special feathers, which indicate that these are customized arrows.

Five Xiantian Mountainbore Demon Hogs Five culled by five lethal arrows. Neat, and swift as lightning but not the white-clothed lady's style.

“Chi!”

With the five Mountainbore Demon Hog fell to the ground, while Du Shaofu was still startled, a shadow jumped out from the direction of the inner part of forest.

This figure of a girl wore tight-fitting green clothes, about sixteen to seventeen of age from her appearance. Eyebrows smooth as jade, skin fair as snow, three thousand strands [1] of black hair gathered together in a simple knot, holding a delicate bow coupled with an exquisite face and tall figure, exuding a spiritual aura that one could not help but to think of elves. This girl is exactly like an elf.

Appearing in front of Du Shaofu, her eyes swept passed casually. Her water-like clear eyes seem friendly, but in truth borders people a thousand miles away, dispelling any thoughts of getting close, especially being stared at by those eyes that seem to see through everything.

Pulling out a dagger, the girl in green clothed squatted down next to the Mountainbore Demon Hogs and started cutting off the fang-like ivory from the snout. Her slender fingers, snowy white with a trace of pink holding the sharp dagger cutting off the fang-like ivory as if cutting tofu. The girl's every move was fluid and graceful, with her black hair floating in the breeze, her slender limbs elegant and refined.

After a moment, the girl finished collecting all the fang-like ivories, finally getting up and looked at Du Shaofu who managed to stand up, frowning: "This level of strength dares to venture into Wild Beast Mountains if you do want to die it is best you leave at the earliest possible. The current situation inside is not some place you can enter."

Although the tone was cold, but her voice was clear and distinctive. In a blink, the girl is gone.

"Such speed, such strength."

Licking the corner of his lips tasting the slight sweetness of blood, Du Shaofu muttered to himself faintly. The girl does not seem that old but her strength is very strong, to be able to kill five Mountainbore Demon Hog that easily is not something an average person can do.

"Looks like your luck is pretty good as you are still alive."

The cold words announced the return of the white-clothed lady, silently appearing in front of Du Shaofu.

"Almost did die."

Licking the corner of his lips tasted of the sweetness of blood, Du Shaofu muttered to himself faintly. The girl didn't seem much older than him but she is very strong, killing five Mountainbore Demon Hog that effortlessly is not something an average person can do.

Du Shaofu feel extremely wronged or perhaps sulky is a better word. If not for that girl's timely appearance, his little life is probably gone.

"Interesting, it's getting interesting. I did not expect people from that clan will be here. "Talent's not low, there should be someone with her, otherwise, they will not let such talents into the depths of Wild Beast Mountain."

“Boy, I’ll take you to see some excitement, how about it?”

The white-clothed lady turned over, her gaze upon Du Shaofu.

Predecessors, Big Sister, my interest in so-called excitement are not that strong. You’re a strong warrior, you do not have to eat but I haven’t eaten anything for a day and night and... gululu gululu...” Du Shaofu’s sentence has yet to finish, his stomach let out a rumbling sound, obviously a sound of starvation.

On the path of cultivation, one forgoing food for ten days up to half a month is normal. It was rumored that when one reaches a certain realm, the body can be nourish with xuanqi and eating is longer necessary.

However, neither the first nor second method is applicable on the current Du Shaofu.

The white-clothed lady seemed to have truly forgotten this matter, glancing at Du Shaofu from the corner of her eye: “You can go and look for something to eat now.’

Notes:

1. Three thousand strands of hair, i.e luxuriously thick hair.
2. Mountainbore Demon Hogs; they drill through hills and mountains (ideal for tunnel works?)

Chapter 17: Beast Tide

Not long after, fragrant of roasted meat drifts through the forest, whetting the appetite.

A bonfire is piled up in front of Du Shaofu, two hog's feet from the Mountainbore Demon Hog is roasting on top, sprinkled with natural spices foraged from the nearby shrubs. The oil dripping onto the fire making sounds of "zi zi" non-stop are enough to make anyone drool even before getting a bite.

The smell of the roast meat is hard to resist even for the white-clothed lady sitting not far away, as her pupils glanced a few times towards the bonfire.

Roasting meat this way is nothing new for Du Shaofu. All these years, it has not been once or twice that he and Fu Yibai sneakily roast animals caught in the back mountain.

This meat-roasting craft, Du Shaofu learned it from Fu Yibai. Every time he tastes the meat that FuYibai roast, he had to admit that it tastes better than the cooks at Du Clan.

Du Shaofu's stomach has been whining from long before, when the meat aroma reached its peak, he immediately grabbed one and started gobbling up not bothering about keeping an image and the likes.

"Fu Yibai taught you how to roast?" Looking at Du Shaofu wolfing down the meat, the white-clothed lady questioned sans her usual coldness instead a trace of softness laced within.

Du Shaofu raised his head and looked at the white-clothed lady since escape is futile, his attitude became more laid-back: "There is one more, you can try it. You fed me poison dan, but I didn't add poison onto the roast meat. Truthfully, this roasted Mountainbore Demon Hog is quite tasty, just that the meat is a bit

tough.”

The white-clothed lady hesitated, contrary to Du Shaofu’s expectation, with a turn of her hand the other roast hog feet directly flew into her hands wrapped around a clean handkerchief. Parting her lips and daintily began to eat. The elegant manner, when compared to Du Shaofu’s devouring, is much more presentable.

Du Shaofu blinked twice. He thought that strong warriors do not need to eat, unexpectedly the roast meat managed to incite the lady’s appetite.

“Hou... hou...”

Deep within the mountains, beast roars resounded occasionally.

“I’ll take you to see something exciting, to see what exactly is there up ahead.”

The white-clothed lady got up, eyes looking at the depths of the mountains. Before Du Shaofu can react, his body was involuntarily brought high up in the sky and disappeared from the spot.

Shortly after Du Shaofu and the white-clothed lady left, more than ten figures emerged one after another, some were distinctive looking young boys and girls surrounded at the center by those with dense aura.

“Someone was here. Recently, the wicked beasts within the forest are in a riot, general beasts hunting team dares not come this close. It seems there are quite a number of people rushing here that several forces should have arrived.”

A white-haired old man who is the leader of the group said, noticing the amber remains from the bonfire, his brows furrowed and said: “We should hurry on, can’t let others have the advantage.”

“Roar”

Another night awash with waves of beast roars from the depths of Wild Beasts Mountain, becoming increasingly intense that it feels like the entire forest is shaking. The beast roars rang out like flash floods bringing about fear to those who heard.

“Lately, these wicked beasts are behaving strangely, what exactly is happening inside the forest?”

On the edge of Wild Beasts Mountain, teams of beast hunters sat cross-legged adjusting their breathing was woken up by the continuous intense roars.

For the beasts hunting teams who often move around in the outer edge of Wild Beasts Mountain have never come across this kind of strange situation before and from the looks of it, getting worse.

“Rumble!”

Suddenly, the earth trembled and the mountains shook, the forest trees tumbled down accompanied by soaring yaoqi[1].

“Wicked beasts are coming, there are powerful wicked beasts closing in.”

For the more experience beast hunters, immediately sensed that something is not quite right. Each pulled out their weapons ready for battle.

“Roar!”

A fierce demon wolf rushed out, its body emitting glow with faint traces of runes surging around the body, with lightning speed its ferocious sharp fangs and claw ripped apart a burly man that was slow in reacting into pieces.

“It’s a Violent Stone Demon Wolf!”

Nearby, a strong middle-aged man looked alarmed. This adult Violent Stone Demon Wolf is but a Maidong level wicked beast. Runes on the huge blade in his hand flashed and spread out turning into a light hacking straight at the Violent Stone Demon Wolf with amazing momentum.

“Roar!”

Beasts roar thundered, at the same time the middle-aged man swung his blade, a demon tiger with a white stripe on its forehead jumped out, with its elephant-like mass and soaring yaoqi, runes swirling around his opened jaw swallowed the middle-aged man together with his huge blade.

“That’s a Bloody Demonic Tiger! It’s even stronger than the Violent Stone Demon Wolf.”

“Beast tide, it’s a beast tide!”

Panic voices filled the air in the midst of sudden havoc. Enshrouded by the darkness of the night, for some time, sounds of anguish wailing and howling rang

out from the depths of the mountains

“Rumble!”

From the depths of the mountains, a mass of beasts rushed out and up in the air numerous flying beasts flap their wings slicing off obstructing branches.

Tremors spread through the entire forest mountain, rocks falling and landslide, demonic birds flapped their wings while the beasts gallop on land.

The teams of beast hunters can only flee for their lives in this situation.

Wicked beast of this level is not something those desperate fleeing men can resist, many of them were buried under stampeding beasts the scene was devastatingly gruesome.

“Sou! Sou!”

When the earth-shaking beast tide has mostly trickled down, several figures came out from a nearby cave among them are a few distinctive looking juniors. Their faces bear not much expression as if the ferocious beast tide does not present much of a threat to them, just a hassle best avoided to conserve energy.

The leader of this group is a unique tall bald man. On his shiny bald head, there are strange azure-colored rune-like stripes on his head, adding a sharp edge to his aura.

“Did not expect that Wild Beast Mountains contain such a large number of low-level wicked beasts, we should arrange to tame some of them and bring it back to the sect as mounts.”

The forest was flattened to the ground as the beast tide swarmed through, the bald man eyes glinted as he looks towards the faraway beast tide and said: “Just like the message from our scouts, there’s something big happening in the depths of Wild Beast Mountains. It may be related to the failed breakthrough of that hegemony existence. This is an excellent opportunity for us, and we should hurry to get there before other forces arrive.

With that said, this group of people disappeared in a flash headed towards the inner forest.

Under the blanket of the night, the mountains seemed to shake while the

beasts restless and roaring like it was being driven away or maybe escaping from something.

“It seems something isn’t right with the hegemony existence if not the situation will not be this bad. Absolutely a heaven-sent opportunity, absolutely!”

Up above on a cliff, stood an old man, wearing black clothes and his hand held a strange looking staff with a snake head at the top. His brows furrowed as he looks towards the distant beast tide as if hesitating, for the hegemonic existence is too terrifying, if not for the unexpected circumstance, no one even dares to think of taking advantage of it.

“Elder, the other forces are here too, it will not be easy for us to grab benefits.” A thin figure of a man said to the old man in black.

The old man in black raised his head slightly squinted his eyes over the beast tide in the mountain depths saying: “Whatever method we must get that good fortune, if taken by the other forces, the consequences are worrying.”

Note:

1. Yaoqi is the same as xuanqi but instead of human, it is a type of qi condensed by beasts.

Chapter 18: Perfecting the Raging Storm

Waves Palm

As both they disappeared in mid-air, Du Shaofu's complexion pale. The high-altitude flight almost made him puked out the hog's feet he ate.

More importantly, the earth-shaking beast tide with fierce beast wings flapping and roars, made Du Shaofu's heart shivered just looking from afar. If he alone encountered such a beast tide even ten thousand lives will not be enough for him to live through it, the enormity and terror of Wild Beast Mountains finally hit Du Shaofu.

"Things are getting even more interesting. Quite unexpected that Wild Beast Mountain is housing such a vicious existence that can command thousands of wicked beasts, and most of them aren't weak either. It seems like I have underestimated this Wild Beast Mountain."

The white-clothed lady looked at the incoming beast tide from the depths of the forest with a slight smile. Then she quietly sat cross-legged and once again the flute of olden ambiance appeared in her hands. Placing the flute under her slightly parted lips, melodious sound once again weaved through the air.

The mild sound of the flute, ethereal, familiar yet Du Shaofu was still intoxicated by it.

Another night passed, when daylight shone on Du Shaofu's face, he sobered up from the intoxicating melody. To him, the flute melody is just like a magic spell, unknowingly pulling him into the melody, and it was as if within the flute melody was able to cleanse one's soul. He woke up feeling refreshed and energetic.

Whereas the white-clothed lady is still sitting cross-legged in the same position, eyes closed.

“What a horrible beast tide.”

Du Shaofu came to a realization when he saw the devastated forest where the beast tide has swarmed through, it looked like the aftermath of an earthquake that he couldn't help but be awestruck. Glancing towards Stone City's direction, feeling like it was way out of his reach, unsure how far this hilltop is from Stone City.

“Does it scares you?”

The white-clothed lady's brown eyes observed Du Shaofu, not knowing when she woke up.

“It truly is frightening.” Du Shaofu did not deny, thinking of that mammoth beast tide yesterday it is impossible without fear.

“Your performance so far is pretty good, thus before Fu Yibai comes your life is in good hands.” The white-clothed lady said to Du Shaofu.

Du Shaofu frown, first of all, let's not say whether Fu Yibai will or will not come, just thinking about the dangers of Wild Beast Mountains, if Fu Yibai comes, will he be able to stay alive? Looking at the white-clothed lady, he sighed and ask: “What if that old man Fu Yibai, did not come or perhaps unable to come?”

“Then I will kill you.”

The white-clothed lady looked at Du Shaofu then said: “We will stay here for a day or two, by that time there should be a good show to watch.”

“I am hungry.”

Du Shaofu feels helpless, in the middle of Wild Beast Mountains, especially after experiencing last night's terrifying beast tide, even if this lady releases him this very moment, he will not leave.

“During the beast tide last night, there should be a lot of wicked beasts died being trampled on, you can go down and search for something to eat.” The white-clothed lady no longer bothered with Du Shaofu and not in the least

worried that Du Shaofu will try to escape.

“So high, and I have to go down and then climb back up again?”

Looking down from above, Du Shaofu sucked in a deep breath of cold air, to descend from the top of the hill to the foothills, and then climbing up on the jagged mountain trail, he'll die from exhaustion even on a flat road, not to say this...

“The one who is hungry is you, not me.” The white-clothed lady closed her eyes after leaving this sentence.

Du Shaofu gritted his teeth in vexation but powerless against his rumbling stomach, having no other choice he began to climb down from the mountain peak.

It took him one and a half hour to reach the foot of the hill, halfway down he nearly slipped, a layer skin from his arm were scratched off, if not for being able to initiate xuanqi, he would have toppled down.

This definitely is not a hill an ordinary person can climb up or down easily.

Reaching the foot of the hill where everything was a wreck due to the beast tide even huge thick trees broken in halves, Du Shaofu managed to gather quite a bountiful harvest of low-level wicked beast bodies which Du Shaofu assumed were trampled to death by the stronger wicked beasts during the beast tide.

Du Shaofu is slightly frustrated, if he could transport these wicked bodies to Stone City, even though only Houtian level beasts he could still sell them at a very high price.

Searching nearby, Du Shaofu dare not venture too far way, in case he came across wicked beasts then he'll be in big trouble. Finally decided on two smaller Houtian level wicked beasts; two Scarlet Fire Rabbits and Mystical Iced Python and headed back up to the hilltop.

Scarlet Fire Rabbit is half a meter in size, able to spit out scarlet-red flame, extremely agile, but the attack is relatively weak. Most of the beast hunting teams do not like this meat and it's easily available in Stone City.

Mystical Iced Python is also a Houtian wicked beats, about three meters in

length its body exuding chilly air non-toxic air, but once bitten the victim's body will freeze into ice.

Scurrying around foraging some natural spices and ripping down a tree vine to tie the two small wicked beast bodies around his waist, Du Shaofu started his climb the hilltop.

By the time he reached the peak, the sun's high up in the sky. Exhaustion took most out of him leaving only a couple of breaths that he practically lied down for a full ten minutes before he manages to get up. The white-clothed lady remained still, sitting cross-legged and her eyes close as if there were no one around.

However half an hour later, right when the roasted Scarlet Fire Rabbit were ready as the smell of roasted meat permeates the air, Du Shaofu was about to gobble down on the tender meat, the white-clothed lady opened her eyes and with a turn of her slender hand the white-clothed lady ignoring space grabbed the entire rabbit; tearing out a thigh piece before flinging the rest back to Du Shaofu.

Du Shaofu can only stare fiercely at her but dare not voice out any complaints.

Wiping his mouth clean, there's not much for Du Shaofu to do after filling his stomach, so he started contemplating on how to perfect Raging Storm Waves Palm. The last time he only managed to practice the skill but yet to have the time perfect it.

"If xuanqi can accumulate more in 'Heaven Gate' and 'Heaven Pond', it will be easier to manipulate the 'hard' aspect that the momentum can continue uninterrupted due to insufficient qi. Only then it will truly be like raging storm waves and covered up some flaws and weakness.

Knowing that white-clothed lady is an expert, Du Shaofu has no intention of hiding anything and soon immersed himself in the thought is improving Raging Storm Waves Palm.

"Being able to practice Xiantian martial skill without any cultivation. Not only practiced but also improve a Xiantian martial skill and a wasted martial pulse that seems to have restored a little. In such a small border town, unexpectedly there's such a unique kid."

Watching Du Shaofu who totally immersed in contemplation of perfecting the Raging Storm Waves Palm, a light glimmered in the cold white-clothed lady's brown eyes.

“Roar!”

“Ao ao!”

This was another tumultuous night within the mountains as the wicked beasts once again went on stamped resulting in a mammoth beasts tide, more terrifying than the night before. A higher level of powerful wicked beasts storming through the forest, exuding immense pressure that even Du Shaofu was woken up from his contemplation.

“Rumble!”

From the depths of the mountains ahead, a vast stretch of beast rampaged through where trees were uprooted or broken down, tree branches falling from high above scattered everywhere cut down by wings of the wicked birds.

Beast roars thundered and resounded through the mountains. Some of the lower level wicked beasts were trampled flat in the stampede as blood splashed in every direction painting a gory picture.

“Quickly retreat, this beasts tide is too ferocious.”

In the mountains, a tall man with rune-patterns on his bald head is swinging his powerful fist around,

each punch from his fist is combined with the glow of rune-like patterns reducing it's targeted into bloody pieces, leading his companions behind him to evade the beast tide.

“Retreat to the cliff, first get away from the beast tide!”

Not far away, an Oldman in black clothes holding a copper snake-head staff, guiding his group towards the cliff, with the young girls and boys protected in the middle by several strong warriors, all the while sending out talisman-like pattern quick as lightning towards the surrounding wicked beasts.

Chapter 19: Finally, Success!

The beast tide this time, was shorter compared to last one, from the hilltop Du Shaofu looked downward. Gusts of breeze from the passing flying beasts' flapping wings sting Du Shaofu's cheeks and made his heartbeat quickened from shock, quickly stepping back.

The demonic birds were so huge, with an overbearing pressure that towering trees nearby broke.

"Looks like whatever that is happening inside is not so simple." Looking at the forests beast tide, the white-clothed lady that has been sitting cross-legged murmured to herself.

After the beast tide has passed, Du Shaofu continued to roast the Scarlet Fire Rabbit, the scent of roasted meat wafts through the air and this time, Du Shaofu took the initiative and tore off a whole rabbit leg and handed it over to the white-clothed lady.

The white-clothed lady did not hesitate, wrapping the leg with a handkerchief and started to nibble, however, instead of eating, it looks more like she's reliving memories.

On the other side, Du Shaofu is the opposite devouring the Scarlet Fire Rabbit with just two to three big bites and having finished that did not seem to have quelled his hunger that he went on to roast the Mystical Iced Python as well.

"I'm not eating snake meat it looks kinda strange."

When the fragrant scent from the roasted snake drifts out, Du Shaofu again handed another piece of meat to the white-clothed lady but she refused to even look at it.

Du Shaofu didn't mind it and continued scarfing down everything, once done he wiped clean his mouth and again start to comprehend the perfecting of Raging Storm Waves Palm.

Between comprehending and perfecting both martial skills, Du Shaofu noticed that perfecting Raging Storm Waves Palm is harder than Pulsate Fist. There exist some flaws and weaknesses he clearly was able to feel but unable to resolve it, stagnating his progress.

At this time, the intoxicating sound of the flute once again reached his ears, pulling him into the sound, cleansing his soul.

As he enters the vague world of the melodious flute, as if enlightened, the bottleneck he encounters with the Raging Storm Waves Palm fade away, swept away by the sound of raging storm waves.

“What a mesmerizing flute sound looks like someone arrived ahead of us.”

In the distant mountains on a hilltop, an old man with hair white-as-cranes' looked ahead towards the cliff, brows creased together.

“Crane Elders, are they from those several forces?” A middle-aged man asked.

“Don't know, but we must hurry over quickly. We mustn't allow other forces to have an advantage over us. Already two beast tides passed, something must have happened to the hegemonic existence that makes it clear the forest in such a way to prevent mishaps from occurring later.” The white-haired Oldman said.

Above, on the hilltop, Du Shaofu's hands kept condensing seals as xuanqi flowed along specific meridians points for one complete turn, then gather in his palm again, at this moment his atmosphere suddenly changed drastically, with him as the center point terrifying layers of wave constantly swirled, endless myriad of energy gushing towards Du Shaofu's body causing the surrounding space becoming unstable, ripples like water boiling. Du Shaofu's momentum surged to the point of terror like a volcano about to erupt.

“Ei, extracting power from the pulse, Maidong level strength.”

The white-clothed lady not far away, noticed the faint light between Du Shaofu's eyebrows like it as interacting with a mysterious energy, her brown eyes widened in surprise much more than all the previous times.

“Raging Storm Waves Palm!”

Du Shaofu shouted then a palm shot out with xuanqi surging, an extremely loud explosion sounded in the air like a thunder that came out of nowhere. Stormy waves of wind energy collided multiple times with a vast masses of rock about a hundred meters away.

“Rumble!”

Rocks cracked then split into pieces of different sizes rolling down from the top of the cliff to the bottom. Silence ensued after a long echo through the mountains.

“Success at last.”

Admiring the damage caused by his palm, a smile appeared on Du Shaofu’s face; *finally improved part of Raging Storm Waves Palm, the actual power was higher than imagined.* Still, Du Shaofu also feels Raging Storm Waves Palm can further enhance it’s just that the current level is his limit, to further enhance the skill; the heart is willing but lacks the strength.

“Gu lu lu~”

Looking at the sky it is already evening, his stomach began growling to signal that it is time to feed it. Du Shaofu found recently he seems to be turning into a glutton, even stranger is these days he did not spend any time to comprehend the mysterious stone tablet’s first style, however, his xuanqi capacity has again increased, brimming as if it is about to explode.

“I’m going down to get some food.”

Du Shaofu said to the lady in white clothes who was sitting cross-legged, immediately after saying that he climbed down. He managed to reach the foot of the hill a lot faster for he had previous experience and he did not wander far just in case he encounter any high-level wicked beasts, just quickly gathered a couple of smaller wicked bodies and return to the hilltop.

Du Shaofu did not encounter any wicked beast, what he encountered was people, more than a dozen figures appeared in front of Du Shaofu, consist of the young as well as elderly, both men and women led by an Oldman wearing a black robe, his hand holding a peculiar looking copper rod

with a serpent twirling up the staff.

“Boy, who are you?”

A middle-aged man looked at Du Shaofu with doubt in his eyes, he is unable to sense any breath fluctuation of cultivation from the youth's body, but there is an indication of xuanqi.

“There are powerful wicked beasts around it is better you leave quickly.” Du Shaofu raised his head and looked at these people, every one of them had distinctive air stronger than his Eldest Uncle and Second Uncle, even those few young men and woman are not ordinary even more dazzling than the Du Clan younger generation.

“You have not given me an answer, who are you? Aren't you afraid of beasts tide?”

The middle-aged man has a stomach full of doubts looked around, apart from the youth in front there are no other people in the vicinity, manage to survive two beasts tides the youth is definitely not an ordinary person.

“Who I am, needs not your concern.”

Du Shaofu became upset, in recent days all he felt was vexation, and these people are behaving quite rudely thus naturally he too will not be polite. Facing these extraordinary people under normal circumstances, Du Shaofu wouldn't be so blunt but now things different. Du Shaofu knows firsthand how strong the white-clothed lady is, he intuition tells him the white-clothed lady is stronger than these people thus letting caution fly out the window. After all, the white-clothed lady ate the meat he roast and abducted him to lure Fu Yibai that old bastard out so she wouldn't actually disregard his little life.

“Where did this wild mountain boy crawl out from, do you know who we are, disaster will befall on you for disrespecting us.”

Middle-aged man turned gloomy, he is an illustrious character, considered an authority in a reputed sect, never did he imagined he'll be contradicted by such a young ignorant boy.

“Sky Serpent Sect truly is a dignified and prestigious force ah, even coming to Wild Beast Mountain to frighten a little boy, truly prestigious.”

The sound of a hearty laughter is heard emerging from the mountain depths roughly about ten people also with distinctive atmosphere including a few juvenile. The one who spoke was a very unique looking hefty bald man with strange azure lines similar to runes adding an edge to his atmosphere.

Note:

1. the heart is willing but lacks the strength – desires for something to have/happen, but is powerless/unable to achieve it.

Chapter 20: A Brutal Strike

“Blacknether Sect.”

Seeing it was the hefty bald man and his group, the old man in black and others with him did not look too good, the tall middle-aged man who was questioning Du Shaofu earlier furrowed his brows: “Baldy Zhong, Blacknether Sect’s moves quite quickly.”

“Sky Serpent Sect is not slow either. Something isn’t right with the hegemony existence within the Wild Beast Mountains, and matters of this scale are not something Sky Serpent Sect is qualified to meddle in.” The bald headed brawny man said to the middle-aged man, his gaze shifted to the old man in black clothes holding the snake-headed staff and said: “I did not expect Sky Serpent Sect even sent the dignified Copper Snake Elder here.”

“Aren’t you here too? I’m certain you too, desires to gain some benefits from that existence.” Gripping the copper snake-figured staff, the oldman looked past the brawny bald man towards the several youngsters behind him:” This generations’ of Blacknether Sect’s disciples are quite good, just waiting for an opportunity for build-the-base baptism however it is dubious whether such an opportunity will present itself.”

“Sky Serpent Sect’s younger generation is also not bad, but life’s fortune seems a bit shallow in my opinion, most probably will be returning empty-handed this time.” Baldy Zhong eyes swept over the several young man and women of Sky Serpent Sect, not losing in sarcasm; whenever the two sides meet the atmosphere will immediately become tensed.

“So lively, indeed was a smart choice to come early ah.”

Following the old hoarse voice is the arrival of several people lead by an old

man at the front, his hair was as white as a crane's, bearing an exceptionally strong aura, behind him stood young men and women also extraordinary circled protectively by some strong experts.

“Mystical Talisman House's Daoist Crane Spirit.”

Seeing the white-haired old man, whether it is the Copper Serpent staff elder or Baldy Zhong's pupils flitted unnoticeably.

Du Shaofu carrying a few wicked beast bodies did not imagine that he will run into three different forces of people. Both the Sky Serpent Sect and Blacknether Sect were forces Du Shaofu had heard of, rumors have it, these sects are more powerful than an empire, even emperors is to greet them in person.

Forces of this level exist in the outside world are something that Stone City can only look up to from afar.

Now, Du Shaofu finally understands why these people dare to enter Wild Beast Mountains during this period, turns out each one has an amazing background.

“Please continue your discussion, don't mind me.”

Du Shaofu is not a fool, whether it is Sky Serpent Sect or the Blacknether Sect, both are not forces he can mess with and that last force, most probably is not weaker than the initial two forces, getting out of here as fast as possible is the smartest choice. Furthermore, he's not even familiar with them.

“Kid, you have yet to answer my Shishu's[1] question!”

An arrogant young man about Du Shaofu's size stepped out from the Sky Serpent Sect's group of youngsters, directly blocking Du Shaofu's way, obviously, Du Shaofu is nothing in his eyes.

“Don't block my way, I'm hungry and want to go and roast meat.”

Du Shaofu is very unhappy with this arrogant young man obstructing his way, bypassing the young man, Du Shaofu move towards the hill.

The young man felt he had lost face, he was the pride of the sect and within the sect, his presence is heaven-like, who would dare to be disrespectful towards him. If not for waiting for the strongest wicked beasts' essence of blood for built-the-base baptism, he would have already entered into Xiantian territory.

“Hmph, looking for abuse[2].”

Seeing Du Shaofu bypassing him, the young man snorted, suddenly punching out aiming towards Du Shaofu’s back, within the shadow of the fist faint lines of runes surging with momentum rapidly closing the distance in between.

“Raging Storm Waves Palm!”

Du Shaofu of course, is not a fool, he had been wary and was quietly arming himself when he felt the vibration of a strike coming from the back, immediately the improved version of Raging Storm Waves Palm shot out xuanqi surging the power akin to a volcano erupting, clashes head-on with the young man’s punch.

“Bang!”

A thunderous sound like the stormy waves surging with energy of the wind, crashed continuously against the young man, from the grounds clouds of sand rose, fallen leaves fluttered in the wind, and the young man of Sky Serpent Sect staggered ten steps back in succession before landing on his butt, drops of blood trickled from the edge of his mouth.

Du Shaofu was still standing, although his body shook slightly, sighing in his heart, *this young man is really strong*, much stronger than those cousins of his, if not for perfecting the Raging Storm Waves Palm probably he will be the one planted on his butt.

“What a strong youth.”

The entire scene happened so swiftly that the people from all three forces were yet to react, many young girls’ eyes fell on Du Shaofu, exposing the color of surprise.

Some of the experts from Sky Serpent Sect look petrified, the defeated young man though yet to enter Xiantian level, but still is a peak Houtian warrior waiting for his built-the-base baptism. Base on his strength, an ordinary Xiantian level warrior is not the young man’s opponent however, the very same young man was defeated by a wild youth in the mountains. It is simply unbelievable!

Some of them can’t even determine the level of cultivation of the purple robe youth, possessing only xuanqi without any realm atmosphere, this youth is simply terrifying.

“The palm skill he used just now seems like Xiantian martial skill, however, there are traces of Maidong atmosphere, could this kid be a Xiantian Warrior or maybe even a Maidong Warrior, damn!”

Doubts appeared in many of the strong warriors’ heart whereas most people were in a dazed surprise.

“Hmph, just a little brat but dared to hurt others, unforgivable.”

The middle-aged man face earlier sank and turned gloomy his hand reaching out to grab Du Shaofu, as the hand reached out space distorted and Du Shaofu’s body felt as if it solidified, unable to move even a finger.

“Humph!”

In this split-second time frame, a stream of flashing runes dropped from above like lightning crossing space penetrating the middle-aged man’s handprint.

“Ahh~!”

Handprint shatter but the stream of runes continued to drill into that man’s hand that a bloody hole appeared, blood flew everywhere as he screamed aloud.

“I’m immediately coming back to roast meat for you, don’t be anxious.”

Du Shaofu laughed. That move earlier must have been the white-clothed lady, he gambled correctly the white-clothed lady wouldn’t let him die and not do anything, he’s also right that she’s far stronger than any person here. Grinning, Du Shaofu no longer bothers with the so-called three forces, turned around with some wicked beast bodies and began climbing up the hill.

“So strong!”

As the crowd regained focus, that middle-aged man’s strength was considered strong, unexpectedly hit by someone out of thin air, even not knowing who hit him; the youth in purple robe have the backing of someone with such terrible strength behind him, it’s no wonder he dares to appear in these inner part of Wild Beast Mountains and strike the Sky Serpent Sect’s young man without hesitation.

“There’s another sky above the sky, and people above other people[3], you all have to remember well, do not behave arrogantly in the outside world, learn to

have an open mind.”

The White-haired Oldman advised the younger generation behind him, then looks at Du Shaofu as he climbs, some doubts remain in his heart; *this young man is so remarkable and yet he climbs up the hill, is this a special physique training method. It's obvious this youth's physique is very strong, almost comparable to a wicked beast or it is impossible to collide head-on with the Sky Serpent Sect's young man punch and remained steady as Mount Tai*[4].

“Yes, we will remember Elder's teaching.”

The young men and women nodded in understanding, they indeed witnessed the profound truth of the idiom there exist people stronger than the extent of their knowledge and that young man in purple robe climbing up the hill are not much worse compared to themselves.

Notes:

1. Shishu- (Probably most knows this) Master Uncle, i.e: the person (persons) that apprenticed under the same Master as one's master.
2. The actual wordings were '敬酒不吃吃罚酒' literally refusing to drink a toasting wine only to drink a penalty"
3. There's another sky above the sky and people above other people: There will always exist people better than oneself.
4. Mount Tai is a common referral in Chinese – something/someone unmoveable/steady as if anchored

Chapter 21: Battle Between Two Powerful Hegemonies

The White-haired Oldman words did not sound pleasant to the ears of the Sky Serpent Sect's younger generation and they already downcast from the event. Someone took out medicine and bandaged the young man's wound. With the deterrence earlier, no one dares to find trouble with the youth in purple robe's further, for the person behind him is not someone they can afford to provoke.

"Exactly who is on that cliff? Are they also vying the same thing as us? It appears, this time, there is an additional competitor."

Baldy Zhong frowned as he looked at the towering peak. The sun had set by the time Du Shaofu reached the cliff top, and the white-clothed lady is sitting there cross-legged and eyes closed.

Du Shaofu did not speak, as he quickly busied himself with roasting meat to fill his stomach and when the scent of meat wafts through the air, the white-clothed lady did not wait to be offered and help herself to the meat.

Cleaning up after finish eating, Du Shaofu begins to comprehend the stone tablet's mysterious first style which compared to Pulsate Fist and Raging Storm Waves Palm are many times more complex and profound.

Unsure of the reason why tonight was especially quiet, perhaps all the wicked beasts ran off with the beast tide that plunges the forest into an eerie silence.

However, this particular silence brings with it a sense of foreboding. It is too quiet. Apart from the occasional wind blow, there is no other sound; just like a piece of death land, desolate and lifeless, only the occasional wind passing through the boundless forest, swirling some dried shriveled leaves along the

way.

This quietness continued until the middle of the night when suddenly, up above the cliff, the beautiful white-clothed lady suddenly opened her eyes and stood up, her eyes reflected the moonlight as she looked towards the depths of the mountains.

“Something’s not right.”

Those of Blacknether Sect and Sky Serpent Sect in the surrounding peaks gazed towards the deeper parts as they could sense bone-chilling danger encroaching.

Under the moonlight, the shadow of the many mountain peaks and vast forest creates an illusion of tsunami about to engulf the entire mountain.

“At last, you’re unable to wait any longer.” From the deeper parts of the forest, a crisp, calm female voice echoed out, sounding melodious.

“Because now, you’re at your weakest, this time around, you are no longer my opponent.” A second voice is heard, deep and thunderous.

“But your patience is at its limit, how sure are you that I’m at my weakest at this moment.” The calm female voice said again.

“Rumble!”

Subsequently, sounds of thunderous crashes resounded through the mountains, shaking the forest and the mountains trembled as if about to crumble, lightning strikes among the surging clouds up in the sky intermittent with purple-colored flame and dazzling flashed of gold.

“Fight started.”

“Someone’s actually able to rival the hegemony existence.”

“.....”

Up on the cliffs, the Baldy, Copper Snake Staff Elder, and the Crane Spirit Daoist looked at each other with shocked eyes, then staring rigidly at the inner forest, it looks like that part of the world is facing a catastrophe as the earth quaked, space distorted and monstrous talisman energy filled the sky, causing the ones looking from afar to feel dread.

Such a horrifying battle lasted for several hours until dawn arrives.

“Ji~!” (TL – Sound of a chirp)

A shrill cry resounded through the air as a gigantic bird shrouded in blazing purple-colored flame akin to an inferno fireball appeared across the sky in everyone’s sight.

“Ao~”

A giant golden-winged bird pursues from behind, as it spread its wings that reach three hundred meters in width, a flap of its wings creates a horrifying gale with streaks of dazzling gold, its eyes sharp and intimidating as it dives towards the giant purpleflame firebird with speed quick as lighting.

The purpleflame firebird unable to contend with the golden-winged bird further, flaps its wings to speed away.

The golden-winged bird pursues with fervor unwillingly to let go, the two giant figures’ battle-ravaged the forest leaving it in a devastating state.

“That hegemony existence is being suppressed by the giant golden-winged bird unable to retaliate.”

“That golden-winged bird looks a bit like the legendary existence, but it’s not possible, since when did Wild Beast Mountains have such a powerful bloodline of fierce beast.”

“Things seem to be different from our imagination ah.”

Up on a mountain peak in the forest, Baldy Zhong, Copper Snake Elder, and Crane Spirit Daoist were shocked, whereas those of insufficient strength was barely able to control themselves from prostrating on the ground just from the atmosphere spread out from the two giant birds.

“I did not expect that there is such a powerful bloodline here, really is a coincident ah.”

The white-clothed lady eyes shimmered as she observes the earth-shattering battle.

“Chi la~”

Far away, the golden-winged giant bird finally caught the giant purpleflame firebird, begin attacking as it flaps with golden wings, it's sharp feathers shone a dazzling gold with mysterious talisman-like patterns spreading out sharply.

The purpleflame firebird does not lose out either, flapped its wings and counter-attacked, talisman-like patterns surged and a lava-like eruption of flame resisted the golden light attack.

Two monstrous entities battling the sky filled with clashes of opposing talisman energy, the golden-winged giant bird's cry were like sounds of thunder and the purpleflame firebird's cry pierces the sky, monstrous energy surges and collides in the early morning sky, shaking the heavens!

"Rumble!"

The earth trembled like thousands of beasts running as the shockwaves from the battle barrage down the forests mountain, huge cracks lined the grounds, towering trees were broken and collapses, mountains crumbled as abyss shifts.

"Boom!"

Battling in mid-air, the golden-winged giant bird finally found an opening, with terrifying momentum one of its wings slashed out quicker than lightning accompanied by a dazzling golden light from talisman-patterns, striking directly onto the body of the giant firebird.

"Bang! Bang!"

Receiving a direct hit from the golden-winged giant bird, the purpleflame firebird's surrounding talisman-pattern shield was smashed broken, instantly purple-colored feathers scattered in the wind, its back a bloody picture as it went crashing down to the ground from the impact, inserted between mountains. The forest area surrounding the fall scorched to the ground by the terrible purple-colored flame.

The golden-winged giant bird dives down, using its wings to fan-off the burning flames seemingly eager and anxious to retrieve something.

"Ji~"

However, the fallen purpleflame firebird suddenly moved, a stream of powerful

purple-colored flame spewed from its mouth, the outbreak of the hidden flame were like purple lightning piercing through the void; the golden-winged giant bird's sharp violent eyes widened in surprise, rapidly retreating to avoid the incoming attack, alas, were too late as the purple flames pierce into its body shattering the dazzling golden light shield, blood the color of gold seeps out from its severe wound.

“Coo!” (Coo-ing sound)

In a furious rage, the golden-winged giant bird with strength enough to shatter space slammed its golden wings at the purple flame giant firebird's head.

“It's a no-win situation. Both sides lost!”

“This is a once in a lifetime opportunity, there will not be another chance if we miss this, both are top-grade fierce beasts blood's, treasure amongst treasure.”

“If our younger generation is able to use these blood essences for their built-the-base baptism there is a high chance they will be able to have the beast's talent, definitely a prodigy that will in the heavens and shake the mainland.”

“Sou!” “Sou!”

Suddenly, figures emerged in mid-air from different mountain peaks, all of them possessing airfloat ability, launching directly towards the fallen giant birds, each afraid that the others will be arriving faster than themselves.

Note: If only battle scenes consists of attack and counter. Someone died. Someone wins.

Chapter 22: Cutthroat Treasure Grabbing

“Interesting, let’s bring you to see another excitement.”

Finishing her words, she appeared next to a dumbfounded Du Shaofu, grabbing Du Shaofu with one hand and floated out in a leisurely, not in the least concern about the rest of the forces rushing forwards.

Large tracts of the mountains were in devastation, bodies of two huge giant birds fell in the middles of the wreckage, motionless as if they are already dead, the huge bodies were like two huge mountains, exuding extreme hostility causing xuanqi within the body inhibited, even souls shivered.

One of the two giant birds, one the color of dazzling gold with sharp overbearing and intimidating atmosphere is none other than a [Golden-winged Garuda](#).

The other giant bird’s body is purple in its entirety, akin to a phoenix as flames surrounds it without seeming to dissipate, the horrifying scorching heat hinders anyone who wants to get close.

As Sky Serpent Sect, Blacknether Sect and Crane Spirit Daoist reaches the giant birds’ side, each one’s eyes were aflame with burning with greed as heartbeats accelerate, this is an absolute treasure, a blessing bestowed by the Heavens.

“Powerful wicked beasts’ body has an arcane-heritage bone, that bone is the paragon of treasure.”

Almost the same time, Copper Snake Elder, Baldy Zhong and Crane Spirit Daoist pounced onto the two giant birds.

“With your meager strength yet dares to covet such a treasure, court death!”

A sharp admonition rang out, three red streamers pierced through the air with

alarming power.

“Not good, there are strong experts.”

Baldy Zhong, Copper Snake Elder and White-haired Oldman’s expression changed for the worse in mid-air, an overwhelming and dangerous atmosphere awash them with crushing pressure, the three of them did not dare to move recklessly. The rune-like pattern on Baldy Zhong’s bald shone brightly as if coming alive instantly condensed a vapory image of a large bell shielding him.

Copper Snake Elder’s movements were just as quick, flinging out the snake-head staff in his hand it warped into a hundred meters long boa hovering in front of him.

The White-haired Oldman means were more unique; making strange handseals, the air behind him surges releasing an amazing momentum, then a pair of snow-white crane-like wings appeared behind the Oldman embracing his body within.

“Chi la la la!”

Three bright streams of light collided in mid-air, the large bell shielding Baldy Zhong vibrated intensely, buzzing “weng, weng” sounds of protest as cracks begin to appear. The huge hundred-meter shadow of a boa transformed from Copper Snake Elder’s snake-head staff was pierced through easily, and even the celestial crane’s wings protecting the White-haired Oldman whined miserably.

“Bang! Bang! Bang!”

Shockingly, three of the strongest persons around yet were unable to defend against one move, plunging down from mid-air hitting the ground heavily, each one vomiting blood and a horror-struck look on their faces. It had never crossed their minds they will be unable to endure even one move.

“Roar!”

“Aoao!”

“Moo!”

Almost precisely the same time, three amazing beast roar resounded through the forest, shadows of three behemoths of a beast shadow appeared in front of

the crowd; an enormous black bear, its paws stout like a stone pillar dispersing a mighty air.

A humongous blood-colored tiger with watchful eyes, sharp claws reflected harsh cold glint and an odd beast only thirty meters in length, just like a small hill but with the roar of a thunder that affects xuanqi, making the blood churns violently.

The three behemoths advanced towards the group of people brought by the Sky Serpent Sect, Blacknether Sect, and the White-haired Oldman, those able to airfloat are known experts in the outside world, however, in front of these three behemoths, they are powerless.

“Ahhh...!”

Nightmarish screams reverberated through the dark forest, up to a dozen people were from Sky Serpent Sect, experts from the Blacknether Sect were wiped out in a blink of an eye by the behemoth beasts when finally three pairs of crimson eyes locked onto Baldy Zhong, Copper Snake Elder and the White-haired Oldman.

“All three are kings of a territory within Wild Beast Mountains, normally with the Demonic Phoenix’s deterrence these wicked beasts dares not act recklessly but now the Demonic Phoenix and the Golden-winged Garuda is dead they are planning to devour the bodies to evolve and increase their strength!”

The White-haired Oldman, Copper Snake Elder and Baldy Zhong are very clear what the wicked beasts desires, even at peak condition it’s difficult for them to contend with a king level wicked beast, not to mention now that the three of them are injured, there can only be one ending.

“Run, quickly run, the losses are too heavy, the treasure is not destined to be ours.”

Between a treasure and one’s life, naturally, one’s life is more important, if one’s life is already gone then no matter the treasure it will be of no use. The White-haired Oldman and the two, after all are not weak, without further delay all three of them shot up to the sky escaping at rapid speed.

“Hou~”

The three behemoths roared furiously and started pursuing the escaping trio relentlessly with fury, space fluctuated and nearby trees rip off the ground.

“Chi la la la!”

As the three Wicked Beast King disappeared, two silhouettes appeared in mid-air, an adult and a child; the old woman around fifties with a slight hunchback, her long hair with slivers of white combed into a high bun, with a prim looking face.

But the girl next to the old woman has an amazing temperament, dressed in tight-fitting green clothes, holding delicate bow and arrows, an exquisite face and tall figure, exuding a spiritual aura that one could not help but think of elves. “From the looks of things, amongst all the people here, you are the only one capable of competing with this Oldwoman, may I know your name?”

The Oldwoman looked on the other side, straightening her slightly bent body. There is no obvious breath of cultivation detected from this Oldwoman but she is capable of airfloat, but the sharpness in her voice is the same as the person who attacked the White-haired Oldman trio, which means she was the one who launched the attack.

“I arrived here unintentionally, in truth I just wanted to see the excitement. As for my name, it is not worth mentioning, however, it is unexpected by your side is a person from that Clan, could it be that you have some relation with that Clan?”

The white-clothed lady appeared in mid-air, calmly giving the girl a glance with her clear brown eyes, her gaze then shifted downwards onto the bodies of Demonic Purple Phoenix and the Golden-winged Garuda.

“It’s her.”

Du Shaofu stood along in mid-air with the white-clothed lady. Surprise crossed his face when he spotted the elf-like girl beside the Oldwoman, she was the one who killed five Mountainbore Demon Hogs with her arrows, he didn’t expect to see her again here.

The girl, however, did not notice Du Shaofu as her attention was occupied two giant wicked beast bodies.

“Such terrifying wicked beasts’.” Du Shaofu was stunned as he looked at the Golden-winged Garuda and Demonic Purple Phoenix, bodies comparable to mountains, spreading overwhelming atmosphere that made Du Shaofu almost fall from mid-air.

“The meaning of your words, this Oldwoman does not understand, but since you are here just to look at some excitement, then the Golden-winged Garuda and the Demonic Purple Phoenix’s arcane bone go to me, the essence of blood and other bones we divide evenly, what do you say?” The Oldwoman looked at the lady in front she could vaguely feel this woman is very strong, if possible she would avoid going against her otherwise, there is no such thing as “share” in her vocabulary.

Note:

1. Purpleflame firebird, Demonic Purple Phoenix, and Demonic Purpleflame Phoenix refers to the same being, it’s like peeling the layers of a shallot. Please, don’t be confused
2. Crane Spirit Daoist and White-haired Oldman – same person
3. The “Moo!” it’s not a cow

Chapter 23: Arcane Bone Detonation

“That’s too troublesome. Since fate has brought this fortune upon my doorstep, naturally I shouldn’t fail to live up to its expectation, both the Golden-winged Garuda and Demonic Purpleflame Phoenix, I’ll take them.” The white-clothed lady said softly in a calm manner, her eminence undeniable.

“You sound so confident then let us see who will get it in the end.”

As the Oldwoman said that, a powerful force breakout from within her body and soared like it was about to pierce through the sky, her eyes sharp, further negotiations is not necessary for they’re guests with ill intent. Letting the Elf-like girl down onto the ground, an invisible coercive force filled the sky, like needles pricking the skin.

“You go down too, remember not to go near the wicked beast bodies.”

The white-clothed lady’s voice sounded in Du Shaofu’ ear, and the next moment, Du Shaofu wrapped by an invisible energy floated him down to the ground.

Raising his head to look at the white-clothed lady in mid-air, with a wave of her long sleeves, numerous bright lights surround her, congealing in mid-air forming a dazzling sphere of light, faintly discernible are the runes within. At this moment, on this piece of land, a plethora of heaven and earth energy surges with rolling momentum.

“I can tell that you’re injured, it seems luck did not favor you much.”

As the Oldwoman’s terrifying force surges, runes begin to swirl as she condenses a palm print and hit it towards the white-clothed lady.

“Even though there is an injury on my body, but your level is still a bit lacking.”

Said the white-clothed lady leisurely, but the look in her eyes became a bit more somber, the Oldwoman's strength surprised her. With a move of her slender hands, the surrounding energy moves with her as bright lights shimmered, space vibrated as she counters the Oldwoman's strikes.

"Bang!"

A loud explosion rang out as energies collide, shockwaves rippling outwards in the four directions like a solid entity.

In just a few breaths time, the two silhouettes again exchanged blows, wrapped in bright spheres of light, runes continuously swirls, the battle's aftershock shakes the mind and soul. With each collision, thunderous sounds of explosion shatter space from the formidable force, as both of the silhouettes flashes around battling, moving farther and farther away from the two bodies of wicked beasts, to preserve the Golden-winged Garuda and the Demonic Purpleflame Phoenix bodies from being destroyed.

Du Shaofu of course, is unable to follow the movements of the fierce battle happening in mid-air, experts of that level are something he can only admire from afar, gritting his teeth vowing someday that he too will be like those experts, he will rush headlong forward to create his very own heaven and earth.

"Sou!"

The Elf-like girl makes her move, pouncing directly onto the bodies of the Golden-winged Garuda and the Demonic Purpleflame Phoenix.

"Hula ~!"

Suddenly, the 'death' Golden-winged Garuda moved, within the lifeless body, ripples of golden lights surges, a harrowing wave of atmosphere spread out, just like an unsuspecting tempest.

"Puchi!"

"Careful."

Du Shaofu obediently listened to the white-clothed lady, have no intention of getting close to the two giants bodies, but seeing the Elf-like girl hurt he threw caution to the wind cause no matter what, the girl considered having saved him

once thus his immediate reaction was to leap out to catch the Elf-like girl.

“Puchi!”

Although Du Shaofu managed to catch the Elf-like girl, however the recoil from the impact superseded Du Shaofu’s assumption, his internal organs felt like they were about shatter as he fell the ground at the same time as the Elf-like girl, blood spraying out from his mouth.

Their bodies stacked together as they hit the ground, the guy below and the girl on top, cheek to cheek and pair of blood-covered lips stuck together that the Elf-like girl couldn’t help but blushed.

“Coo!!”

When the Golden-winged Garuda revived, a shrill scream escaped its mouth as its giant of a body got up, it’s powerful claws dug into the Demonic Purpleflame Phoenix’s stomach as if it was about to rip the fabric of space.

At the same time, the Demonic Purpleflame Phoenix also awaken, it’s sharp talons wrapped in a layer of purple-colored flame sank into the Golden-winged Garuda’s belly, in this short span of time, once a sharp and intimidating pair of Garuda eyes were filled with fear and despair instead, then replaced with a cruel light, runes pattern surrounds its body, lights flicker and its momentum once again surge that even the heaven and earth’s energy started bubbling up.

“Not good, the two wicked beasts revived, quick escape.”

Lying on the ground, pain coursed through Du Shaofu’s entire body like he was being dismantled apart, almost making him faint, even though at the moment a soft body was pressing tightly against his chest he had no superfluous ideas, especially after witnessing the two wicked beasts’ revival, standing up to reach a tall mountain’s height, horrifying atmosphere flood the surrounding.

Hearing Du Shaofu’s words, the Elf-like girl immediately jumped up, another mouth of blood spewed out as she runs with utmost effort away. In front of the two wicked beasts she is absolutely powerless.

Du Shaofu wants to escape too, but the body feels like it’s falling apart unable to get up, xuanqi swirled violently within his body, on the verge of eruption.

“It wants to detonate arcane-bone, damn!”

The revived Demonic Purpleflame Phoenix just sunk its sharp talons into the Golden-winged Garuda’s belly, almost instantly its expression changed for the worse, like it was experiencing an appalling thing.

Putting everything into words sounded lengthy, but in actual, everything happened in in split-second time frame.

“Run!”

Quite a distance away, the Oldwoman and the white-clothed lady discovered the alarming changes on the ground, the Oldwoman’s face paled instantly as her silhouette flew straight down without in haste, retreating at once after grabbing the Elf-like girl.

The white-clothed lady’s face ashen and her silhouette flashed heading straight to Du Shaofu.

“Roar!”

“Moo!”

The three Wicked Beast King that left pursuing the Copper Snake Elder trio; the Bloodlust Tiger, Herculean Blackbear and the strange beast with a sound wave attack returned, three shares of powerful attack aimed directly at the white-clothed lady.

“Evil creature, court death!”

The white-clothed lady was truly angered now, her usual calm face turned fierce as flickering lights of runes surround her body instantaneously converging into a unique handprint in front of her body.

As this handprint floats in front of her akin to a full moon on display, a holy aura, pure, clean and merciless exhibiting grand power able to completely shatter the mountains and earth, shot out towards the three Wicked King Beasts.

“Bang! Bang! Bang!”

The three Wicked Beasts Kings’ attack shattered and dissipated under this handprint,

the handprint continues onwards crashing directly into the three Wicked King Beasts, smashing the layer of protection runes onto their bodies. The skin and flesh were scrapped revealing the white of bones, blood splatter and finally exploding in mid-air.

The three Wicked Beast Kings obliterated by the white-clothed lady in one move.

“Rumble!”

Golden-winged Garuda’s body exploded, exploding at the same time was the Demonic Purpleflame Phoenix, golden energy and purple-colored flame fused together into a destructive energy hurricane sweeping across the forests and mountains, even space show signs of collapsing.

This very moment, it was as if the whole world trembled, the hurricane of energy brings destruction in its path, beams of energy lashing up to the sky emanating unbearable pressure, a scene of Armageddon.

Chapter 24: The Innocent Got Dragged In

Flickering lights of runes wrapped around the white-clothed lady, the bright light of sphere rushed heedlessly into the hurricane of energy, wanting to rescue Du Shaofu.

The momentum of the hurricane dissipated and weakened, revealing tilted mountain slopes crumbling, fissures on the ground akin to abysses.

Both the Golden-winged Garuda and Demonic Purpleflame Phoenix resolutely chose to detonate themselves – perishing together with the enemy. With the intelligence of a powerful bloodline, these wicked beasts would never die in a way that allows humans to collect their blood and bones to be refined into treasures and immortality dan. Such an act is not only an insult to themselves, but also an insult to their bloodline and the whole beast race, thus most high-level beasts would rather blow themselves up rather than be cut up and divided by humans.

The white-clothed lady's silhouette floats above an area of devastation, searching for signs of Du Shaofu – without a doubt in that terrifying energy hurricane, Du Shaofu being so close to the energy hurricane will not be able to resist, highly likely that he perished with the Golden-winged Garuda and Demonic Purpleflame Phoenix.

“In the end, it was me that harmed you and I am no longer adequate to see him. Seem like this is not a suitable place for me to stay.”

Looking at the wreckage below, her eyes glazed with sadness and moments later her silhouette disappeared from mid-air in a quick flash.

Far away, on top of a towering tree, the Oldwoman holding the Elf-like girl close, sighs while looking at the devastation: “Didn’t expect the Golden-winged

Garuda and the Demonic Purpleflame Phoenix are so ruthless as to detonate the arcane bone just to perish together with the enemy. Everything's blown to smithereens, if only we were able to get the Golden-winged Garuda and Demonic Purpleflame Phoenix's arcane bones and essence of blood it is enough to allow you to sweep the lands, pity this great fortune slipped through."

The Elf-like girl did not speak, her watery eyes looking at the direction of the wreckage, seconds later turning to the old woman beside: "Master, is that boy dead?"

"No doubt he's dead. The explosion of two wicked beasts' arcane bone is too formidable even his master wasn't able to save him." The Oldwoman said lightly, even she had to avoid far away from that scale of an explosion, but the white-clothed lady dared to rush into the hurricane instead. That single action was enough to prove the white-clothed lady is much stronger than her even with an injury otherwise it will be even more strenuous fighting against the white-clothed lady.

"He saved me. He wouldn't have died if it weren't for that and I wouldn't have survived." The Elf-like girl said weakly, if it wasn't for that youth, perhaps the one who's dead will be her.

"We should go."

The Oldwoman did not say much, only her eyes once again glanced pityingly at the destroyed mountains then bringing the girl and flew away.

...

Dusk, Stone City. The remnants of the setting sun's glow were like the color of blood.

Du Clan, Du Zhenwu paced back and forth solemnly before finally stopping, and said to Du Zhixiong who is next to him: "So many days has passed, why hasn't there been any news of Shaofu, wasn't there any clue at all?"

Haggardness shows on Du Zhixiong's face, clear tell-tale signs that he hasn't been resting lately, said: "We are investigating with every effort but there is no news, and *the* several families did not have any communications with strange unknown people. Also, there have been two consecutive beast tides in the Wild

Beast Mountains many beast hunting teams suffered mishaps with the survivors escaping into the city, during this period there's no one dares to enter Wild Beast Mountains."

"The matter related to Wild Beast Mountains temporarily put on hold, finding Shaofu is our top priority."

Du Zhenwu brows furrowed, then his expression paled: "Beast tides within Wild Beast Mountains are something unusual, it may be related to a treasure being born. Keep an eye on it, at the very least, must not allow the other families to obtain it."

"I understand. I have already sent people to look into it." Du Zhixiong nodded then continued: "Last night, the beast tide came close to Stone City, The One within the city let out a resounding roar deterring the incoming beasts that the city saved from being swarmed by the beast tide. If not, Stone City's situation would be unfavorable."

"According to rumors, The One inside the city will not be able to hold on for much longer, that several families would have made their move if not for its deterrence, once The One collapses, a storm will sweep the entire Stone City and the first to be affected is the Ye Family."

Du Zhenwu's brows furrowed deeper, then said in a light voice: "Recently, that Ye Family's girl has been circling among the families younger generation, including our Du Clan's, without question the real purpose is to choose an ally. Once The One is unable to hold on anymore, Ye Family will need an ally."

"Big Brother, what should we do?" Du Zhixiong asked.

"Act according to the situation. First, let's wait and see what's the situation."

Suddenly changing the topic, Du Zhenwu asked: "About Shaofu, have you notify Third Brother?"

Du Zhixiong shook his head, said: "I haven't seen him these few days, probably hiding somewhere drowning in sorrow."

"That year, what exactly happened in the main family that changes someone high-spirited like Third Brother into what he is today, as his elder brother I'm totally useless unable to help him in any way. And now, even his son I'm unable

to take care of properly.” Tears welled in Du Zhenwu’s eyes.

“Big Brother, don’t blame yourself too much. I will do everything I can to find Shaofu.” Du Zhixiong too, is blaming himself. Every effort is made to search and yet there’s not one bit of news, he waits with an anxious heart for the result of the next search.

Panic gripped the residents of through Stone City as the news of beast tides almost attacked Stone City spreads, causing unease and restlessness.

During this period, those beasts hunting teams who frequently enter Wild Beast Mountains were all hiding in Stone City not daring to step out, these two beast tides had claimed numerous lives from the beast hunting teams and some mercenaries.

“Beast tide within the Wild Beast Mountain, it is possible a treasure is born?”

“Last night, from the deeper parts of Wild Beast Mountains monstrous fire and light bright as the sun covered the sky, could it really be some wondrous treasure.”

“Even if it is truly a wondrous treasure, it is only useful if you are alive to enjoy it.”

“.....”

On the main streets and small alleys inside Stone City, various sounds of whispers and arguments filled the air centered around the events inside Wild Beast Mountains, most people guessing if there are treasure being born inside the mountain. This piece of news caused many eyes ablaze with eagerness they’ll be rich if they can lay their hands on the treasure.

...

“Hurts, so painful.”

When Du Shaofu regained consciousness, he felt his chest burning hot, pain coming from his heart, the kind of pain that pierces through the heart, unbearable and ineffable pain.

Between his vague fleeting conscious, Du Shaofu felt a rib bone was forcefully snapped and reconnected with an unmatched bone, just like fire and water.

Experiencing unimaginable agonizing pain, a bone looking like a tiny dazzling sun forcefully connected to his ribs, dense golden-colored blood flowing from out from it. This golden-colored blood flowed from the broken golden bone, connected to Du Shaofu's ribs enters his heart, blood vessels, meridians, skin, muscles, gradually the gold-colored bone fused harmoniously into Du Shaofu's body.

Note:

If anybody is wondering from where the main family branch comes from, please be patient, it will be reveal in coming chapters.

Chapter 25: Altered Blood, Flesh, and Bone

Golden-colored blood flows out from the half broken bone into Du Shaofu, vaporize his blood. This gold-blood is too high-handed, simply refuses to blend with Du Shaofu's blood.

Du Shaofu's heart, blood vessels, meridians, flesh and bone are unable to endure the overbearing power of the golden-colored blood thus slowly being consumed and eliminated. The barely conscious Du Shaofu can only endure silently the extreme pain, powerless to let out even a scream.

"I didn't imagine you'll be an ordinary person. Detestable human!"

Just when Du Shaofu feel his body is about to shatter into pieces from the extreme pain, a voice rang out sounding despaired and outraged, then flames of purple spreads out wrapping around him, helping him to resist against the overbearing golden-colored blood.

As the purple flames wrap around Du Shaofu, instantly suppressing by half the overbearing violent golden-colored blood but the purple flame brings a different type of pain scorching his internal organs, flesh and bones like being roasted on high heat, combined with the pain brought on by the golden-blood make Du Shaofu wondered if he had fallen to the deepest level of hell*.

Du Shaofu doesn't know what exactly happened, from his vague and transient consciousness he faintly remembers the two wicked beasts exploding under the horrible energy hurricane a ball of purple flame pounced on him – at that point of time, he was powerless to struggle or move and under the scorching heat his conscious slipped away when pain took over his mind.

Under the excruciating pain brought by both the flame and the blood, Du Shaofu fainted.

This time, in his confused state of mind Du Shaofu was able to feel the overbearing golden-colored blood started to blend with his body which is almost emptied of blood, with the help of the purple-colored flame. The golden-colored blood seems to fear the purple flame begins to circulate in Du Shaofu's blood vessels, the mismatched bones fusing together as if of one origin...

No matter how overbearing and vicious the golden-colored blood is as it vaporizes Du Shaofu's blood, there were traces of blood not destroyed by it however these traces is too weak thus hidden by the golden-colored blood.

Time passed slowly as the golden-colored blood continues to flow endlessly from the broken bone in his chest until there is only blood of pale gold circulates in Du Shaofu's body, to the bones, meridians, muscles, organs, nourishing the whole body...

And all of these were aided by the purple flame otherwise there is no way for Du Shaofu to escape the fate of bursting into pieces just from the tyranny of the golden-colored blood.

“Gu!”

Not knowing how long have passed, a sound came out from the broken bone in Du Shaofu's chest, runes glowed from the broken bone's surface and energy fluctuation as if it would rather explode rather than be fused with Du Shaofu.

With the runes fluctuations from the broken bone grows ever more violent, even the purple flame faces difficulty suppressing it, the pale gold blood churns and swirls – if the broken bone were to explode then Du Shaofu's body turned into ashes.

“Chi la la”

At this moment, suddenly from Du Shaofu's body a mysterious light bloom, these strands of lights some dim and some were bright, linking with the meridians and blood and ultimately combined forming a bright net with a terrifying aura falling on top of the broken bone.

“Gu Gu.”

The broken bone whined and shook aggressively being blanketed by the bright net, as the net shrinks and wraps over it tightly the broken bone trembled like it

suffered the most horrible of oppression.

“Martial Pulse Spirit signet, a martial pulse bearing spirit signet, what kind of martial pulse is this! Obviously just a martial pulse below third grade how could a spirit signet be condensed out, only the strongest of human experts will be able to do it. This human is too strange.”

The purple flame under the coverage of the bright net quickly backs away, showing extreme fear towards the bright net covering the broken bone.

“Gu Gu”

Golden runes flickered intensely as the broken bone exert its strength for a final struggle, the runes suddenly shifts into a life-like image of a Golden-winged Garuda, flapping its wings wanting to break away from the bright net and soar to the sky.

The bright net indeed was torn by the Golden-winged Garuda however it instantly it wraps itself around the wings tightly, an austere majestic breath surged to suppress the life-like shadow of the Golden-winged Garuda.

In the end, all struggles of the Golden-winged Garuda were in vain, as the bright net dices through it instantly reverting it back to a line of runes streaming into Du Shaofu’s mind.

When all of this is happening, Du Shaofu feels like he’s dreaming a very strange dream. In the strange dream, he saw something unbelievable – in the vast galaxy where numerous stars look like drops over the moon, chaos at heaven’s horizon and in the midst of it all, a horrific Golden-winged Garuda, with one flap of its wings it rushes to seventh heaven and stars to burst one after, and another flap of its wings brings it hovering above the galaxy, a scream shakes the galaxy, extremely horrifying.

The gigantic Golden-winged Garuda then breaks down into numerous runes emerging in Du Shaofu’s mind. These runes were deeply profound and complicated, difficult to understand but strangely Du Shaofu was able to understand them, in that dreamy state he immersed in pondering....

This dream Du Shaofu seems to be having is very long, by the time he woke up his mind was still foggy and confused before a pain shot through his mind as if it

wants to split his head apart like a watermelon. Even his body feels like falling apart for the pain have yet to recede.

“Can’t be, this is the Golden-winged Garuda’s exercise law.”

Du Shaofu opened his eyes, the runes and image of the Golden-winged Garuda in his dream were all part of the Golden-winged Garuda Clan’s cultivation law, divided into three parts – body refining, practicing qi and supernatural talent.

Subsequently, Du Shaofu noticed that he is in a strange cave, naked unaware when his clothes turned to ashes, his body aching all over Even though he still does not know what happened after the Golden-winged Garuda and Demonic Purpleflame Phoenix exploded, as long as he is alive then everything is good.

“Not only I did not die, but I got the Golden-winged Garuda’s Clan cultivation secret.”

Note:

1. A Chinese culture belief that there are eighteen levels of hell, each more horrifying as it goes deeper.

Chapter 26: A Blessing In Disguise

Organizing his thoughts, Du Shaofu came to a shocking realization, not only did he managed to keep his little life but he also obtained the Golden-winged-Garuda's exercise law.

The Golden-winged Garuda is a terrifying mighty existence amongst the beast race, terrorizes even strong human experts and mostly heard about in myths and legends.

“Unfortunately it's not possible for human to practice a beast race's exercise law.”

Du Shaofu felt pity, from what he could comprehend the exercise law of the Golden-winged Garuda is very powerful, especially in looking body refining and beasts' supernatural talent – simply not what the humans' inferior exercise laws could hold a candle to.

But it's impossible for human warriors to practice a beast race's exercise law for there is a core difference between the two races, from blood to physique thus humans are only able to comprehend and cultivate the supernatural talent of the beast race. Of course, even if the most talented human comprehends and cultivates the supernatural talent of the beast race, they are incomparable to the real thing.

“Sh*t, xuanqi's gonna burst out!”

Suddenly Du Shaofu's expression changed drastically, at this moment his already full xuanqi can no longer be suppressed down, it keeps accumulating not knowing the reason. Xuanqi rolled and swirled violently in his meridians and blood vessels like it wants to burst out of his body.

Sensing the crisis within his body, Du Shaofu turned solemn as it turns out the

endless xuanqi gushing out came from the broken piece of bone in his chest, the bone a blazing hot of golden sphere floating in his chest. Large amounts of xuanqi kept gushing out stretching to the max all of his organs.

“Foolish brat, quickly run your exercise law to convert the xuanqi from the Golden-winged Garuda into your xuanqi if not, you definitely will die!”

At this time, a charming voice don't know where from sounded in Du Shaofu's ears. This voice sounds very familiar to Du Shaofu.

“How to convert, I have yet to practice any exercise law ah.”

In a moment of crisis, Du Shaofu did not wonder who's talking the most important issue is he did not practice any exercise law yet, and now he simply have no idea what to do – if only he knew earlier that this would've happened, he should've just practiced some 'Unfathomable Righteous Tactics' when he couldn't find Purple Qi Sunworship Scripture, else he wouldn't be in this crappy situation.

“If you haven't practice exercise law how could you have xuanqi? We're finished this time! Don't you know any exercise law at all?”

The angered charming voice continued to say in Du Shaofu's ears, filled with worry – perhaps no one has ever come across this type of situation.

“Ahhhhh....”

The broken bone glowed brightly, runes rolling between the endless outbreak of xuanqi, exuding great pressure that Du Shaofu's body ballooned up, about to burst. The acute pain made Du Shaofu screamed in agony.

“Exercise law, exercise law, try...Golden-winged Garuda's exercise law.”

Amidst the agonizing pain, a light flashed across Du Shaofu eyes – just when xuanqi were an inch away from bursting out Du Shaofu run the Golden-winged Garuda's exercise law, the only law he knows at the moment rather than not doing anything at all, even though humans can't practice beast race's exercise law.

Enduring the gruelling pain, Du Shaofu condensed handseals according to the Golden-winged Garuda's exercise law and begin practicing.

A beast race's blood and physique differ from a human's, so it's an incomprehensible miracle that the moment Du Shaofu starts running the Golden-winged Garuda exercise law it had an immediate effect.

The Golden-winged Garuda exercise law formed a link with the broken bone in Du Shaofu's chest, indirectly looping Du Shaofu within. Du Shaofu feels that he is the Golden-winged Garuda, and the exercise law was created for him. The compatibility was unbelievable to Du Shaofu.

But everything that is happening is real. As Du Shaofu runs the Golden-winged Garuda's exercise law, the remnants of xuanqi within the broken bone became Du Shaofu's xuanqi.

A warrior's cultivation from Houtian level into Xiantian level; at the Houtian level there are nine layers, only after full completion of nine layers will one enters Xiantian level.

At first, although Du Shaofu was able to condense xuanqi however he has yet to learn or practiced any exercise law, thus has no recognized level of cultivation, depending solely on skills and his overbearing xuanqi to defeat opponents.

“Houtian first layer, Houtian second layer, Houtian third layer...”

Almost instantly, the xuanqi from the broken bone and Du Shaofu's xuanqi integrated, following the Golden-winged Garuda's exercise law gathers towards the Shenque in his lower abdomen, before circulating to the meridians, and his cultivation level skyrocketed, from having no cultivation breaking through each layer at rapid speed.

As time passed, Du Shaofu's inflated body returned to normal surrounded by circles of golden light illuminating the entire cave, emitting a breath of overbearing tyranny.

Within the golden circles surrounding Du Shaofu, numerous runes flickering laced with traces of the Golden-winged Garuda's aura, enough to suppress thousands of beasts.

When the runes gathering around Du Shaofu condensed into a shadow image of a Golden-winged Garuda, its oppressive power peaked as the image seemed to come alive, spreading its wings to soar towards the sky, its terror oppressing

other strong beings.

During this process, Du Shaofu who was running the Golden-winged Garuda's exercise law entered a wonderful state of enlightenment.

In that wonderful state of enlightenment, Du Shaofu felt he was a human version of Golden-winged Garuda, as blood the color of pale gold circulates through his veins improving his physique, his organs, bones, flesh and all others transforming, getting stronger and closer towards to the physique of a Golden-winged Garuda.

Immersed in that wonderful state Du Shaofu immobile like a statue, his cultivation soared while being wrapped in the circles of bright golden light, the life-like image of Golden-winged Garuda behind him changes erratically – one moment flapping its wings wanting to soar towards the sky, then turning back to runes of particular arrangements, then back again condensing into the life-like image of a Golden-winged Garuda.

Note:

Shenque – similar to dantian (any difference? Keep reading J)

Chapter 27: Opening Of Shenque

Du Shaofu immersed himself in practice, feeling like he's the human version of a newborn Golden-winged Garuda greedily absorbing oxygen, exploring about himself, probing what can make him stronger, comprehending everything...

"Chi la la~"

Inside the cave, there were faints sounds like thunder as a terrifying coercion swept out from the cave.

At this instant, experts would be shocked with the scene happening inside the cave and if news of it were to spread out it is enough to awe the world.

"A human fusing with a Golden-winged Garuda's arcane bone, flows with the blood essence of Golden-winged Garuda, practicing the Golden-winged Garuda Clan's exercise law, miraculous, this is a miracle..."

From within the body of an immersed Du Shaofu, an enchanting voice sounded astonished.

...

Early morning, on a balcony located deep within a courtyard.

"Fu Huang, were you looking for me?"

A young girl gracefully walked into a majestic hall, dressed in a tangerine-red clothes that do nothing to hide her ample buxom and slim waist, enhanced by her tall figure and elegant temperament, a mesmerizing beauty.

"Sheng Nan, recently many strange things have been happening within the Wild Beast Mountains, from the reports I received Sky Serpent Sect, Blacknether Sect, Mystical Talisman House and other forces have early on sent experts into the Wild Beast Mountains, what is your view on this?"

A middle-aged man said to the young girl. The middle-aged man is rather obese with a big bulging belly and a short stature but exudes an imposing, dignified aura.

“Sky Serpent Sect, Blacknether Sect and Mystical Talisman House.”

Surprise flitted passed the young girl’s clear, bright eyes then she raised her head and said to the obese middle-aged man in front: “Fu Huang, allow me to go and have a look, a treasure has definitely appeared inside Wild Beast Mountains, with my master’s reputation even if I run into them they dare not do anything to me.”

“Sheng Nan, when you were born I named you Sheng Nan with the hope that you will be much stronger than a male, all these years no doubt you’re far stronger than your younger brother, however, you’re back home after a long time away at your sect, Fu Huang really...”

“Fu Huang, it is fine. If my sect came to know about this, probably they’ll send me to investigate Wild Beast Mountains too, and in the event there’s something good we can’t allow Sky Serpent Sect, Blacknether Sect, and Mystical Talisman House to take everything.”

The young girl interrupted the hefty middle-aged man’s sentence, smiled faintly and said: “Possibly this trip to Wild Beast Mountains, I might come across some good fortune. I also heard there are a lot of wicked beasts within Wild Beast Mountains and I have long wanted to experience it.

“You really... If only your brother and sister are half as good as you are, I would be satisfied.” The hefty middle-aged man said smilingly to the young girl, then added sternly: “I will instruct a few of the palace’s experts to go with you, take care of yourself.”

“I understand.” The young girl nodded obediently.

...

Outside Stone City, about half a month passed since the beast tide incident. The much dreaded third beast tide, in the end, did not materialize and some people notices the situation within Wild Beast Mountains has started to simmer down.

“It must be the birth of a treasure that caused the beast tide.”

“Now that the treasure is born, let’s quickly go look for it, we can’t let this opportunity slipped away.”

“.....”

The fear and dread brought by the beast tide at this moment receded instantly with the temptation of a treasure, in the end, most of the beast hunting teams gathered up the courage and entered the mountains again in search of treasure.

When there is a first person, there will be a second person following from behind and after that, more and more beast hunters teamed up to enter the Wild Beast Mountains – everyone wanting to look for the said treasure inside.

“Bang!”

Du Clan. Inside a courtyard, Du Zhenwu’s fist suddenly banged upon the table breaking it into pieces, raging fury in his eyes, shouted: “Exactly who trespassed into our Du Clan and took Shaofu away, I will show no mercy if I ever find out!”

“Big Brother, so many days had passed yet we’re unable to find any clues, will Shaofu...” Du Zhixiong sighs, his face looking pale. He has been out looking for clues every day without rest, on top of that feeling impatient and anxious due to the lack of news increases his worry about his nephew’s safety, Du Zhixiong looks like he lost half of his weight.

“I believe Heaven will look after Shaofu, the lighting at that time did not to take his life, those who survives a calamity will have good fortune shine upon them.” Du Zhenwu’s expression turned grim, turning to Du Zhixiong: “Have you inform Third Brother?”

Du Zhixiong nodded and sighed: “There was not much reaction from Third Brother after I told him, still passing every day in a state of drunkenness.”

Du Zhenwu did not say anything but his expression changed erratically when he finally opened his mouth: “How’s the situation in Wild Beast Mountains?”

“The Ye Family, An Family, Qin Family have sent people into Wild Beast Mountains, rumors has it there’s a newborn treasure inside Wild Beast Mountains.” Du Zhixiong raised his head and said: “Big Brother, Du Clan can’t be

left behind, should we join in the fun and sent in our team too.”

“You lead a team in personally, also bring a few juniors with you, let them gain some experience. Unfortunately, Shaofu is not here, if not he too could go and gain some experience, I’m sure he would improve much faster.” Du Zhenwu sighed.

...

Inside a cave, somewhere within Wild Beast Mountains. Rumbling noises rang out from the cave as if thousands of horses galloping. The golden light surrounding Du Shaofu flicker continuously as the runes shimmered, xuanqi fluctuating within the space of the cave that it quakes nonstop.

Inside the golden sphere of light, every inch of Du Shaofu’s skin glows; like golden colored runes were about to burst forth from his skin, as the golden sphere of light grows ever more dazzling like a miniature sun.

“True heart at peace with Yang as principal; with culmination like the moon’s treasure, wipe away every cloud of confusion leaving no speck of stain, a light of ray fill Heavens’ void, upon the golden cauldron life sprouts daily, reaching perfect completion of Houtian, opening the Shenque of Xiantian!”

At last, Du Shaofu issued a loud roar, the golden sphere trembled, all of his body’s xuanqi rushed towards the Shenque at his navel.

“Ji~!”

At this very moment, the runes floating behind Du Shaofu once again converged into a shadow of a Golden-winged Garuda, issuing a thunderous roar, mysterious runes bursts out emanating an air of overbearing tyranny.

“Bang!”

A muffled sound of an explosion came from the Shenque near his navel, Du Shaofu’s body trembled violently as the doors of Shenque opened and xuanqi rushed through the doors to the Shenque akin to a raging tsunami, runes continues to flicker.

Shenque open and xuanqi came flooding in with flickering runes with a shadow image of a Golden-winged Garuda formed within the Shenque.

The broken bone in his chest glowed brightly dispersing a tyrannical breath, overbearing and vicious, oppressing all beings under the sun!

The difference between Houtian and Xiantian apart from strength is a Houtian warrior relies on practice to slowly accumulate xuanqi for breakthrough whereas a Xiantian warrior can absorb spiritual energy directly from the surrounding to increase their cultivation as long as Shenque is open.

“Ahh!”

Shouting out loud, Du Shaofu could feel a powerful force inside his body, stronger and powerful than before as xuanqi keeps rushing into Shenque, the runes flickering nonstop ever more brightly.

Note:

1. Fu Huang (父皇) is a form of address used only by imperial families to greet the father who is an Emperor. (Some) Emperor also refers to themselves as Fu Huang in front of their children.
2. Sheng Nan (胜男) name – means (to) win against male
3. He who survives a calamity, good fortune shines upon them (idiom)- Shaofu who survived the lightning strike thus will not die so easily.

Chapter 28: Mystical Talisman House

“Chi la la”

The shadow image of Golden-winged Garuda converged from the formation of sparkling runes floating behind Du Shaofu once again reverts into runes, disappearing into his body.

“Hu~”

When things calmed down, Du Shaofu breathes out a mouthful of foul qi, opening his eyes, traces of gold can be seen deep within his bright eyes bearing a domineering aura.

“Xiantian level, directly breakthrough to Xiantian level!”

Du Shaofu was shocked as he senses the changes inside his body, not too long ago he was someone without any cultivation and in this short period he had already breakthrough to Xiantian level.

Now, he can be considered a martial arts cultivator – a Xiantian level cultivator, and within the walls of Stone City, he too can walk sideways.

“The Golden-winged Garuda Clan’s exercise law is too amazing.”

Du Shaofu exclaimed in admiration, him being able to step into Xiantian territory in such a short period is solely due to this exercise law, and this is not the limit of it, he can temper and refine his physique to make it stronger, within the exercise law there are many other profound mysteries.

The improvement of his physique made him feel like he had undergone a thorough inside out body quenching and cleansing of meridians, his entire being reborn, this only goes to show how powerful the Golden-winged Garuda Clan’s exercise law. Moments later, he finally regained his senses from all the shock and

surprise, miraculously, he stepped into the world of cultivation practicing a mighty beast race's exercise law.

His hand reaches up touching the spot atop his heart, he can feel where his rib bone was forcefully snap broken and fused with a Golden-winged Garuda's broken bone, and from this piece of broken bone he got the exercise law of the Golden-winged Garuda's Clan.

The overflowing xuanqi from the broken bone has stopped the moment he successfully opened his Shenque and at the same time completely and flawlessly fused like they were one originally.

"Where is this, how did I get here?"

Only now did Du Shaofu realized that he is in a cave, not knowing how he got in here, bare naked when he remembered being in the midst of the energy hurricane caused by the explosion of Golden-winged Garuda and the Demonic Purpleflame Phoenix, how did he get in the cave?

There was a vague recollection of his purple robe being to ashes by a certain purple colored flame.

Not far away, Du Shaofu noticed some remains of a jade bottle and pieces of a case that originally contain the blood essence of Violent Stone Demon Wolf and two base-building dans but looking at the bits and pieces amongst the ashes, nothing remains after a bout of scorching heat.

The burned valuables caused Du Shaofu's heart feel a prickling pain, blood essence of Violent Stone Demon Wolf and two base-building dans worth quite a lot of money, he initially planned to use them for his built-the-base baptism to breakthrough Xiantian level.

However thinking back, the current him has already breakthrough to Xiantian level and many aspects of his body have changed drastically due to the Golden-winged Garuda, there are heaven and earth of a difference between a Golden-winged Garuda and a Violent Stone Wolf Demon that comforted Du Shaofu from the loss.

"Ei."

A look of surprised on Du Shaofu's face, when he thought everything has

turned to ashes from the sea of purple flame, he saw an animal bone and a small tower both are things he took from Du Clan's Martial Collection Building when he was searching for the Purple Qi Sunworship Scripture. The jade bottle and other items turned to ashes but the little tower and the animal bone were not damaged in the slightest, which made Du Shaofu feel strange, and perhaps these two items are not as ordinary as he thinks.

Early morning in the vast forest, the morning air was laced with fogs and mists.

Canopies of towering trees obscure the sky, allowing nothing more than fragments of sunlight through the gaps of dense foliage.

A young girl and a young boy shuttling through the vast forest, their expression somber, appearance extremely disheveled.

"We must locate Elder Crane and the rest as fast as possible, if not we'll be in big trouble." The young girl said, xuanqi rippled under her feet as she moves speedily through the forest like she was escaping something.

"Detestable Sky Serpent Sect, I definitely will not let this be." The young man sixteen to seventeen years old, gripping a long sword in his hand, cursing while shuttling behind the young girl, his strength obviously is lower than the young girl.

"Zhu Xue*, you won't be able to escape, handover the treasure and I will let you go this once."

Without warning, a few silhouette appeared in front lead by a young man over twenty, a faint smile on his face, tall with a good looking face which would make him quite popular among the opposite gender, but the eyes under his single eyelids were sinister and cold that influences his aura.

"Sou! Sou!"

With the appearance of this young man, on tall trees nearby, more figures appeared, encircling both the young girl and young man in the center.

The young girl and young man were startled immediately stopped their advancing pace, both of them stood back to back and observed the surrounding with vigilance.

“Lu Kun, if you dare to harm us, Mystical Talisman House definitely will not let you go.” The young girl, slim, dressed in a long skirt, xuanqi fluctuating around her, her bright eyes were grim with the gravity of the situation.

“Zu Xue, do you think my Sky Serpent Sect is afraid of your Mystical Talisman House, these words you can say it to threaten others, but it is useless to me.” The young man named Lu Kun smiled at the young girl, the corner of his mouth curves up in a sneer, said: “I’m asking you again, handover the treasure, or not?”

Zhu Xue gave a glanced over at the encirclement, her expression but her xuanqi continues to surge: “You want to grab the treasure, but your strength may not be enough to take it away.”

“Then, I can only take it myself.”

Lu Kun sneered, then said to the thirty-something sturdy man next to him: “Third Captain, they really run in this direction just like what you’ve said. I will handle the girl the youth I leave to you, settle it quickly. As per our agreement, the treasure belongs to our Sky Serpent Sect and everything else goes to you.”

“Young Master Lu, rest assured no one is more familiar with Wild Beast Mountains than us beast hunting teams. I’ve already said they won’t escape. You take care of the girl and leave the boy to me. When we’re finished here, we can go and take care of the others.” The sturdy man said, on his bare arm there’s a tattoo of a leopard head, the breath fluctuation around him is a tell-tale sign that his strength is not weak.

“Then, let’s start.”

Lu Kun nodded and headed straight towards Zhu Xue not far away, a cold sneer on his face. Xuanqi rippled under his feet, a palm filled with a frigid xuanqi shot out directly at Zhu Xue.

“Junior Brother Guo, you be careful.”

Facing the incoming frigid xuanqi, Zhu Xue feels her skin tightens become even warier as her graceful silhouette swiftly skirted to one side retreated in haste.

“Chi la~”

A frigid cold qi streaked within a hair’s width passed Zhu Xue’s neck, her

slender hands condensing handseals rapidly and a fingerprint shot out at the same time aiming at Lu Kun's chest!

Note:

1. Zhu Xue – Pearl Snow

Chapter 29: Kill A Xiantian

“You’ve skills however, you are still just a Xiantian mysterious layer, I have reached paramita layer, and you alone are not enough to fight against me.”

Zhu Xue was very swift and her speed alarms Lu Kun, nonetheless he recovered quickly from his shock, his foot sidestepped and a fist punching out to collide head on with the fingerprint condensed out of xuanqi, in the collision opposing xuanqi neutralized each other before dissipating but clearly, Lu Kun had the upper hand.

“All of you get into formation.”

At the same time, the sturdy man took action, gripping a huge blade in his hand and slashed at the young man, xuanqi lined the edge of the huge blade ripples across space, out of expectation the sturdy man is a Xiantian level warrior.

“Bastards, you measly beast hunters dare to oppose Mystical Talisman House, there’ll be a day you regret this.” The young man rebuked loudly yet keeping vigilant, xuanqi fluctuates, the sword in his hand emits a cold ray and with lightning speed defending against the blade slashing down on him from the sturdy man.

Instantly, the fight between the two men became intense, the young man’s cultivation is at the same level as the sturdy man however strength wise he solely relies on the high-grade martial skill and his own talent to fight on par with the sturdy man.

The young man is only sixteen-seventeen years old whereas the sturdy man is more than thirty nearing forty, the gap in talent is obvious, given a little more cultivation time the young man will easily beat up the sturdy man.

Not far away, the battle between Zhu Xue and Lu Kun is difficult to decide a winner, although Lu Kun has the upper hand, however it's impossible for him to suppress Zhu Xue in the meantime.

“All together, first waste this kid.”

Attacking so long without success and was instead suppressed in return, the sturdy man seemingly does fear the young man's background, became increasingly anxious he immediately yelled at his team of men.

“Attack together.”

Hearing that, several tall men with different weapons in their hands rushed up to attack even though their cultivation has yet to reach Xiantian their advantage lies in number, creating obstacles for the young man.

But those youths who came with Lu Kun, their attention was focused on Lu Kun and Zhu Xue instead and ignored the sturdy man and his group, their eyes reveal only contempt and disdain when looking at the sturdy man and his team. The sturdy man and his team are disposable in their eyes, and the so-called co-operation was just to make use of them.

“Boom” “Chi la”

Although besieged, the young man seized the chance to kill off a few beast hunters and injure those below Xiantian level cultivation. It is extremely arduous for them of the lower level fighting against a Xiantian warrior.

“Chi!”

Under the circumstances, the sturdy man finally found an opening and his blade snaked out towards the young man.

“Exalt Sword Arts.”

The young man's face paled, the sword in his hand moving quickly as streaks of sword rays blocking out the lethal blade.

“Bang!”

At this time, the sturdy man's years of experience shows a fist hit the young man squarely on the chest the force of the impact pushed the young man back, staggering dozen of steps, the sword in his hand fell to the ground and blood

spitting out from his mouth.

“Kid, don’t think the Mystical Talisman House name is useful in Wild Beast Mountains, if you manage to survive this of course, I’ll need to be afraid, but when both of you are dead who will know that this is related to me.”

Being a person that makes his living from the Wild Beast Mountains, he doesn’t mind killing a few people for benefits are key and from these Mystical Talisman House disciples, they are bound to harvest something good.

Without wasting any time, his foot tapped heavily on the ground, his blade cutting down on the young man.

While the young man was already injured and staggering, any hope to block this latest wave of attack is impossible, he can only stare wide-eyed at the blade slashing down on him.

“So many people bully so few it’s a little too inconsiderate.”

When the young man was about to fall into despair, a stern voice suddenly resounded next to him and in the blink of an eye a figure appeared next to him in a ghost-like manner.

“Bang!”

The surrounding space seemed to shake as a faint sound of explosion rang out then everyone can only see the sturdy man’s silhouette flew back staggering and when he finally steadied himself, his face was colorless and shock in his eyes, immediately raised his head to look up.

In that instant, numerous pair of eyes fell upon the silhouette that came out of nowhere suddenly astonishment filled their eyes.

This person who suddenly appeared is a youth, his body covered densely with large pieces of leaves hold together in place with tree vines, exactly like a savage but his eyes were clear bright with clean-cut features and his temperament very much unlike a savage.

The youth of course, is Du Shaofu. Only after crawling out from the mysterious cave did he realize that he was at the bottom of a cliff, his clothes burned to ashes.

He did not come out with spare clothes, at his wit's end, he had no choice but to find some large leaves and tree vines as a temporary solution. Not long after climbing up the cliff, he came across this fighting scene, seeing so many people ganging up on two people, he couldn't control himself and took action, besides he's a Xiantian level warrior.

"It's him..."

The youths who followed Lu Kun immediately recognized Du Shaofu, at that time Du Shaofu struck off a disciple from their sect with just one palm, it didn't expect that they will meet again here.

"It's you..."

The young man who just experienced a narrow escape was fully shocked as he looked the just appeared Du Shaofu, at that time he was not too far away and witnessed Du Shaofu striking the Sky Serpent Sect's young man.

"Where did this wild boy come out from dares to be nosy matters related to our White Panther Beast Hunting Group."

Being pushed back, the sturdy man greatly shocked, however seeing that it was only a wild savage boy he yelled aloud, concentrating all xuanqi rippling around his body to his arms, clenching the huge blade with both of his hands, his heavy step hit the ground surface, rushing forth with extreme speed as blades of wind swept up nearby leaves and the heavy strike came upon Du Shaofu.

"Immense Gravity Cut!"

This blade skill is what this sturdy man is famous for that even Xiantian level wicked beasts have fallen under this trick, an attack that wants to shatter everything in his path into thousand pieces.

Du Shaofu raised an eyebrow, his face calm facing the increased wind pressure and just when the blade about to reach him, agilely his foot stepped to the side, the blade barely grazed down his ear.

"Ka ka!"

As the blade cuts down, numerous cracked lines appeared on the ground from the heavy qi force, a huge tree the size of a barrel burst to splinters from the

root up.

In just a short moment as Du Shaofu sidestepped to avoid the blade, his fists clenched and lightly tapped his foot on the ground and in a ghost-like manner appeared behind the sturdy man. His fists enveloped in xuanqi punched out forcefully, unique thirteen echoes resounded when the fist met the sturdy man's back.

“Bang!”

Receiving the heavy blast the smirk on the sturdy man's face froze, stunned as blood spewed out from his mouth alongside pieces of shattered internal organs.

“You just stepped into Xiantian, how is it possible, how...”

Note:

Paramita is a Buddhism term meaning *the other shore* (like the story of the river of Styx) – when someone dies, their souls cross over the *underworld*.

Chapter 30: Spirit Talisman Master

The sturdy can feel the opponent is just a first layer of Xiantian, in fact just stepped into Xiantian recently whereas he has been at the mysterious level for a long time, but the power of that punch is enough to destroy the vitality in his body, the sturdy man falls limply to the ground.

“Third Captain’s dead, quickly run!”

The surrounding men seeing this scene were scared witless, then their horrified faces mirrored each other, their Third Captain is a Xiantian level warrior was killed right in front of them; as veterans of Wild Beast Mountains their survival instinct kicked in, fleeing in panic. If the Third Captain isn’t able to contend, they will meet the same end as the Third Captain, nevertheless, one’s life is the most important.

“Swift Snake Art!”

Lu Kun who was on the other side of the battle can no longer keep his calm seeing that the tide has turned, wrinkled his brows, his hands formed seals, frigid cold xuanqi rotates around him, faint runes swirled to form a black snake, thick as an infant’s arm sent to attack Zhu Xue. It moves as if it was a real life creature.

“Talisman transform, KILL!”

Zhu Xue who was seen getting ever more tired suddenly changed her demeanor as a sharp light flitted across her eyes, her hands continuously forming strange seal signs, an abnormally fierce fluctuation gathered around her, and runes from her xuanqi condensed into a life-like [goshawk](#).

“Ji!”

The goshawk issued a sharp cry spreading its meters wide wings, bringing with

it a small hurricane pounced onto the shadow black snake; its talons sank into the black snake's vital spot tearing it apart into pieces. However, after destroying the little black snake, the goshawk seems to have exhausted its energy, disintegrated into runes before dissipating in the air.

"Spirit Talisman Master, you're actually a Spirit Talisman Master!"

Lu Kun stared at Zhu Xue, and his expression of shock is enough to prove the three words 'Spirit Talisman Master' is by no means an ordinary character, shifting his gaze to look at Du Shaofu wrapped in leaves and vines, looks back at Zhu Xue once again, unwillingly said to the Sky Serpent Sect disciples who were with him: "We're leaving."

"Sou! Sou!"

Following Lu Kun's words, the several young men's expression changed greatly however they still obeyed and left following behind Lu Kun.

"Thank you for coming to the rescue. I'm Guo Ming, a disciple of Mystical Talisman House. You saved my life that means I owe you a big favor." The young man saved by Du Shaofu picked up his long sword from the ground, and with a look of gratitude walked up to Du Shaofu to convey his thanks.

"So, you're part of Mystical Talisman House."

Du Shaofu had heard of Mystical Talisman House, according to rumors they're a formidable power comparable to Sky Serpent Sect and Blacknether Sect, every disciple is extremely strong, no wonder this young man in front, who is about the same age as him but already break through to Xiantian.

Tilted up his head to looked at Guo Ming, suddenly seemed to think of something: "Do you have an extra set of clothes, give me a set."

"Yes, I brought many." Guo Ming was dazed for a moment, scrutinizing Du Shaofu's appearance, then realizing something, immediately nodded his head.

"Puchi!"

Zhu Xue had been standing in the same spot watching Lu Kun retreat until she was sure that Lu Kun really left, only then her face instantly turned pale and red blood spewed from her mouth.

“Senior Sister, are you alright?”

Guo Ming immediately ran to Zhu Xue’s side, his face colorless from the fright.

“I’m alright, just consumed too much energy just now. We must leave at once; if they return with reinforcement, we’ll be in trouble.” Zhu Xue said to Guo Ming and nodded towards Du Shaofu with a faint smile as thanks for lending a helping hand.

“Wait.”

Du Shaofu didn’t mind them at all, squatting beside the sturdy man’s corpse his hands busy searching, whatever deemed valuable plundered clean, even the several Houtian beast hunters killed by Guo Ming did not escape the same fate. This scene stunned Guo Ming and Zhu Xue so much that they looked at each other in disbelief.

Not long after in a valley, Du Shaofu put on a set of new blue robes given to him by Guo Ming, compared to the purple robes he used to wear, the material is so much better, making him appear tall and straight.

From Guo Ming and Zhu Xue, Du Shaofu got to know that roughly a month has passed from the time the Golden-winged Garuda and Demonic Purpleflame Phoenix blew up, so much time passed from the time he regained conscious and practiced the Golden-Winged Garuda’s exercise law.

Apart from that, from Guo Ming and Zhu Xue, Du Shaofu also got to know that Sky Serpent Sect, Blacknether Sect, Mystical Talisman House and other sects’ experts’ intention was to search for treasures from the Golden-winged Garuda and Demonic Purpleflame Phoenix’s bodies however when they left and didn’t return. The disciples that were left behind waiting didn’t know what happened to them. After waiting for a very long time, they carefully ventured out check out the situation.

When they reach the place of the incident, the whole area was a scene of destruction, the Golden-winged Garuda and the Demonic Purpleflame Phoenix’s bodies nowhere to be found. What they did find however was feathers from both wicked beasts. Although those are just remains of feathers but still considered as rare treasures, which caused everyone to fight over for it.

Disciples from the three sects got into a heated battle, many died and some injured, however when everyone dispersed, they were separated.

Later, the surrounding area's beast hunting teams and mercenaries entered Wild Beast Mountain and their numbers are still increasing. Zhu Xue and Guo Ming found out Lu Kun was co-operating with a beast hunting team called White Panther Hunting Group targeting the Demonic Purpleflame Phoenix feather in their possession, while escaping they coincidentally met Du Shaofu.

Listening to them recount the details of what happened, Du Shaofu had a rough idea about the overall situation, even so, Du Shaofu isn't going to tell Zhu Xue and Guo Ming that the experts from their sect had already been torn apart by the three beast kings. The White-haired Oldman fled pursued by one of the beast kings and from the looks of it, the chances of him surviving are extremely slim.

It wasn't that Du Shaofu intentionally hid the information from Zhu Xue and Guo Ming since matters are related to the Golden-winged Garuda and the Demonic Purpleflame Phoenix, it is better to keep his mouth shut rather than attracting some unforeseen disaster.

Du Shaofu is no fool if anyone found out that he's practicing the Golden-winged Garuda's exercise law, trouble will come endlessly – from being treated as an experiment guinea pig or worse, killed without question.

“We still don't know your name, from which sect are you? This time truly thank you for your help.” Zhu Xue's clear bright eyes observe Du Shaofu, a smile curving at the corner of her lips on an oval face, dressed in a light green skirt looking elegant and beautiful.

“Du Shaofu, no sect no faction[1].” Du Shaofu answered Zhu Xue with a faint smile.

Zhu Xue and Guo Ming seem to find it hard to believe, they saw behind this youth there is the existence of a strong expert that oppresses Sky Serpent Sect, even the Copper Snake Elder dares not move recklessly. Thinking perhaps Du Shaofu is reluctant to disclose anything due his master's reminder did not question further, smiling lightly: “Do you have any plan?”

Du Shaofu said: “I intend to leave Wild Beast Mountain and head towards

Stone City.”

Frowning, Zhu Xue said: ”From our location to reach Stone City, with our speed without any delay even half a month might not be enough. Junior Brother Guo Ming and I also intend to leave Wild Beast Mountain then think of a way to contact the experts from our house to look for our separated disciples. There is danger lurking in every corner of Wild Beast Mountains, how about we move together?”

“This...”

Du Shaofu pondered for a moment, Guo Ming and Zhu Xue are both Xiantian level warriors their strength’s not weak, and since there is safety in numbers even though they bring along some trouble but he had already interfered thus he nodded: “Alright, let’s go together.”

Note:

1. No sect no faction – not in any sect or any faction.

Chapter 31: Strange Phenomenon

“That’s great!”

Guo Ming rejoiced, and Zhu Xue secretly breathes a sigh of relief both of them could see Du Shaofu is not weak compare to them, in fact to them Du Shaofu’s strength is unfathomable that even a mysterious layer Xiantian warrior was directly killed off by him. They will be much safer traveling with this person, at that time even Crane Elder had praised the youth in front.

The injuries on Guo Ming were not light and Zhu Xue overdraft her energies earlier, so the both of them need to rest for some time to readjust their condition before they can move on.

Therefore when evening came, Du Shaofu went hunting alone, and carried back a Mountainbore Demon Hog to the valley, preparing to roast it. When the enticing smell of roast meat filled the air, saliva drools; instantly the two people who were focusing to heal their injuries, Guo Ming and Zhu Xue snapped opened their eyes.

“Let’s eat together if you’re hungry.” Du Shaofu said to both of them.

While saying that, he already started to scarf down the meat. Guo Ming was too hungry to feign politeness whereas Zhu Xue was a little reserved but Guo Ming had torn parts of a thigh and given it to her, frowning slightly she ventured a tiny bite, surprise instantly replaced the frown on her forehead at the taste of the meat. Maybe it was due to her hunger that the meat is so much tastier than all the other meat she had tasted before.

“This is so delicious; I have never eaten such tasty roast meat before.” Guo Ming kept showering Du Shaofu with compliments while scarfing down roast meat nonstop.

When the roasted demon hog disappeared, Guo Ming and Zhu Xue continue to readjust their conditions.

Du Shaofu choosed a spot, sat cross-legged and started running the Golden-winged Garuda's exercise law, from the just eaten Mountainbore Demon Hog, strands of silk thread-like essence were absorbed into his body.

Wicked beasts could extract energy from blood and flesh for own use, and after practicing Golden-winged Garuda's exercise law Du Shaofu could do this too, especially due to the Golden-winged Garuda being a top rank wicked beast among the beast race and the profoundness of its exercise law is frightening and superior.

But from a mere Mountainbore Demon Hog – a roasted one at that – the amount of energy is too little, in the practice of a true Golden-winged Garuda, other wicked beasts are consumed raw, energy from fresh blood and flesh are the purest and most concentrated.

However, as a human being, Du Shaofu is unable to make himself consume raw meat and blood.

It is already alarming that he's able to extract energy from food, which led him to wonder if he could eat a high-level wicked beast, would the amount of energy extracted increase? Then the speed of his progress will certainly be faster too.

Since he had already started practicing the Golden-winged Garuda's exercise law, he intends to continue down this path, including refining his physique to strengthen himself.

A real Golden-winged Garuda's physique is extremely strong and tough, according to myths top existence amongst Golden-winged Garuda, the True Garuda's terror is immeasurable for the legendary dragon race is their food.

Taking dragons as their food serve to prove the indomitable physique of the Garuda else how would a dragon be subdued.

The next day morning, the three of them, Du Shaofu, Guo Ming and Zhu Xue left the valley.

After gobbling down many healing dans, Guo Ming's injuries healed at amazing speed, which made Du Shaofu sighed wryly, indeed someone that comes from a

large sect with heritage.

From the dans Du Shaofu saw Guo Ming took, each one does not come cheap, the younger generation from the Du Clan cannot compare, no wonder everyone dreams of joining a large sect, the gap in resources is too huge.

Du Shaofu of course realized that Guo Ming is about the same age as him, but already is a Xiantian level warrior. The Du Clan juniors absolutely aren't in the same league as Guo Ming, and if not for that fortuitous event, he wouldn't have break through to Xiantian territory and is incomparable to Guo Ming.

The morning inside of Wild Beast Mountains is very quiet as three people move quietly. Three pairs of eyes surveyed the surrounding vigilantly, Guo Ming grabbing the hilt of his long sword at his waist tightly, ready to deal with any sudden situation.

From the greenhorn that he was, he had gained experience from recent events, especially during the time he spent under the 'tutelage' of the white-clothed lady was most beneficial to him.

Du Shaofu's every move and action inside the forest shocked Guo Ming and Zhu Xue, for they could see he's much more experienced than the both of them, and unconsciously as time passed Du Shaofu became the core of the three.

Zhu Xue's delicate face greatly appeals to others' feeling of affection, although seemingly weak however as they move through the forest at rapid speed, her speed exceeds Guo Ming's. Among the three of them despite looking the weakest, her cultivation is the highest.

Wild Beast Mountains being true to its nature are full of dangers even at the edge of the forest, being careful as they were yet unable to avoid being attack by some wicked beasts.

Encircling them is a pack of Berserk Wolfdog, an offspring from the coupling between a wolf and a dog type wicked beast. An adult Berserk Wolfdog's strength could reach Xiantian level, and these wolfdogs always attack in packs, coupled with their sensitivity to smell and quick speed they are the nightmares of beast hunting teams.

"Arwoo!"

There are more than twenty Berserker Wolfdog led by a big black Berserker Wolfdog the size of a tiger directly pounced on them, baring sharp fangs and ear-splitting roars.

“ATTACK!”

Du Shaofu, Guo Ming and Zhu Xue’s strength aren’t weak, immediately launching attacks of their own.

To capture a country first capture the king[1], after killing two Berserk Wolfdogs, Du Shaofu targets the big black wolfdog and threw himself at it.

“Awooo!”

Unexpectedly, with just one punch of Pulsate Fist the big black wolfdog was push back. The big black wolfdog must have sensed something for its eyes were filled with fear when it looked at Du Shaofu, after that it swiftly turned tail escaping far away.

This baffle Du Shaofu because that big black wolf leader isn’t easy to deal with its even stronger compared to the sturdy Third Captain of the White Panther beast hunting team, and if he wants to kill it, he would need to exert a lot of effort but who would have the big black wolfdog ran away by itself.

The following two encounters with wicked beasts attacks pretty much ended up the same way, the moment Du Shaofu starts to attack the leader will look at Du Shaofu terror, turned tail and no longer dares to attack the three of them.

The sudden change during these two attacks also raised Guo Ming and Zhu Xue’s suspicion and tried to probe Du Shaofu’s identity but unfortunately, they were not able to dig out anything useful...

“It’s no wonder Crane Elder always advised us saying there is another sky above the sky, Brother Shaofu you are really strong. These Bal’van Pythons known for its tenacious strength that even a paramita layer Xiantian couldn’t do it much harm, surprisingly you were able to rival it.”

On a certain mountain trail, Guo Ming’s admiration towards Du Shaofu increases with each passing day; among his peers in Mystical Talisman House, he is considered as one of the elite talents thus his eye level is higher than the general standards. Most people don’t even qualify to enter his line of sight, but

after meeting Du Shaofu, he considered it as having his eyes opened and his usual arrogance diminished considerably.

Du Shaofu simply smiles hearing Guo Ming's words he's still wondering why those wicked beasts run away from him.

Night.

The three of them were looking for a hidden valley, to rest for the night and of course some roast meat for dinner. This time Zhu Xue was no longer reticent like before and even took the initiative to help Du Shaofu while Guo Ming sat on the side with saliva drooling from the corner of his mouth.

After a session of gorging on roast meat, the three of them once again adjust their conditions preparing for another day of travel the next morning.

After traveling together for three days, their relationship grew closer.

During this period spent with Guo Ming and Zhu Xue, Du Shaofu knowledge of the outside world improved tremendously, such as realizing the vastness of Wild Beast Mountains has its perimeter running through several empires, it is said even top level experts find it daunting to cut across the Wild Beast Mountains.

Behind every empire is a big sect's support like Mystical Talisman House have more than a few big and small empires as it's vassals. Princes and princesses from these vassal empires cultivate inside Mystical Talisman House.

In these three days, the three of them came across numerous wicked beasts nonetheless all ended running with tails between their legs the moment Du Shaofu makes a move.

Apart from wicked beasts, they also come across beasts hunting teams along the way, but none belongs to the White Panther Hunting Group; and most of these beast hunters have an excellent eye for judging – these three youngsters are no ordinary people, coming out from the deeper parts of the Wild Beast Mountains either they amazing strength or there are experts following them as they train and accumulate experience in Wild Beast Mountains thus the beast hunters will not mess with them.

The evening after the third day, while the three of them were looking for a spot to stop for the night suddenly nine silhouettes appeared not far ahead, lead

them a broad young man in white robes, tall, about eighteen to nineteen years old with an exceptional temperament.

“Senior Brother Shen Yan.”

Looking at the person in front, Zhu Xue and Guo Ming were so happy that they rushed forward immediately. These nine people are same sect disciples which were separated earlier. The Leader Shen Yan is also the group leader for this time’s task.

“Senior Sister Zhu Xue, Senior Brother Guo Ming.”

The disciples that arrived with Shen Yan seeing it was Zhu Xue and Guo Ming, quickly ran up to both of them, however, Shen Yan’s pupils shrinks when his gaze fell on Du Shaofu.

“Senior Brother Shen Yan, how did you arrive here?”

After greeting the other disciples, Guo Ming asked Shen Yan.

Note:

1. To capture a country first capture its king – self-explanatory.

Chapter 32: Physique Refining Law

“All of us met on the way. We guessed both of you will want to leave Wild Beast Mountains thus we traveled towards this direction, didn’t expect that we really will run into you.” After explaining to Guo Ming, Shen Yan’s gaze falls on Du Shaofu: “Junior Brother Guo Ming, this is?”

“I forget to introduce you.” Guo Ming smiled and replied Shen Yan: “This is Brother Du Shaofu, if not for Brother Shaofu’s aid along the way, Senior Sister Zhu Xue and I will be in a lot of trouble.”

Subsequently, Guo Ming recounted the run-in with Sky Serpent Sect’s Lu Kun and the White Panther Beast Hunting Group to everyone causing the few Mystical Talisman House disciples to grit their teeth in anger, vowing to ‘properly take care’ of Sky Serpent Sect and the White Panther Hunting Group later.

Hearing that Du Shaofu killed a mysterious layer Xiantian warrior, Shen Yan couldn’t help but did a double take of Du Shaofu.

“Brother Shaofu, we will be much safer from now on, come with us to exit Wild Beast Mountains.” Guo Ming said in a cheerful manner to Du Shaofu, able to reunite with separated same sect brothers the journey definitely will be much safer.

“Junior Bother Guo Ming, I think you and Junior Sister Zhu Xue shouldn’t trouble Brother Du anymore, Brother Du might have other matter to deal with, and so we shouldn’t delay much more of Brother Du’s time.”

Zhu Xue and Guo Ming’s expression instantly changed when they heard this.

“Haha.”

How could Du Shaofu not have known this Shen Yan clearly doesn’t want him

to be following them, a very obvious act of killing the donkey after the grinding is done[1], a faint smile crept up the corners of Du Shaofu's mouth looking at Shen Yan, Du Shaofu said: "Since you have reunited with your sect disciples, we shall say our farewell here."

"Brother Shaofu, it's somehow not right for you to go alone, just come with us."

Zhu Xue came forward and said to Du Shaofu. She's well aware of the dangers inside Wild Beast Mountains, it's not right for Du Shaofu to be traveling alone, furthermore, because of her and Guo Ming he offended the White Panther Hunting Group and Sky Serpent Sect, it would be troublesome if he runs into them.

"Brother Shaofu, let's go together. I'm worried about you traveling alone." Guo Ming also tried to retain Du Shaofu.

With Guo Ming and Zhu Xue trying to retain him the trace of displeasure Du Shaofu felt earlier vanished, smiled: "No harm, be careful till we meet again."

With these words, Du Shaofu turned and left, since there's someone who doesn't welcome him, it's not in Du Shaofu's nature to impose on others; plus he doesn't like a crowd much.

"Junior Sister Zhu Xue, Junior Brother Guo Ming, it looks like Brother Du has things to attend to, we should not foist ourselves on him."

Watching the leaving shadow of Du Shaofu, there was a hint of bewilderment in Shen Yan's eyes; he initially thought that he would have to spend a little more saliva[2] before able to successfully send this person away however he didn't expect this person to be so tactful.

"Senior Brother, if not for Brother Shaofu rescuing us, we would have met with misfortune." Zhu Xue's bright eyes stared at Shen Yan, slightly irked; how could she not detect the underline meaning of his words trying to get rid of Du Shaofu.

Shen Yan turn gloom as his darken eyes looked at Zhu Xue, said: "Junior Sister, we just need to compensate him a little when there's an opportunity in the future, no matter what he is an outsider, having him with us is not safe."

"But..."

“Junior Sister, there’s a dark side to the human heart, you should be more careful; as long as I’m around, I’ll take good care of you.”

Zhu Xue wanted to say more but was interrupted by Shen Yan: “Junior Sister, there’s a reason why I wanted that Du Shaofu to leave, we discover a place not too far ahead with a high concentration of spiritual aura, at night there are glimmer of iridescent light, most likely there’s a high-grade elixir maturing, and an outsider following us at this time is inconvenient. I think Junior Sister can understand that I’m doing this for the good of all our disciples here.”

Both Zhu Xue and Guo Ming’s disagree yet they’re unable to find any excuse to refute Shen Yan’s reasoning.

Evening, the sunset’s glow colored the sky in scarlet amber.

With the setting of the sun, the forest gradually dims and turned dark.

After separating Zhu Xue and Guo Ming, Du Shaofu decided to firstly look a place to spend the night and continue heading back to Stone City the next day, so long has passed the white-clothed lady should’ve left Wild Beast Mountains; and the drunkard father at home is probably worried about him right now.

As for Du Clan, Du Shaofu sighed wryly, if it was before, perhaps there will be people searching for him if he was missing for half a year, but just around a month’s time...

Night. The cold, bright moonlight shines down blanketing the forest in a soft mesh.

In a small canyon, a salvo of muffled noises resounded. A young man wearing only shorts, his muscular chest and broad shoulders bared, a pale golden glow is seen wrapping around his body as faint runes vaguely visible flowing above his skin; without warning as if he had gone ballistic, repeated throwing his body against the canyon wall.

“Bang! Bang! Bang!”

From the youth’s arms, elbows, back, chest, knees, shoulders to every part of his body repeatedly knocks against the canyon wall; every collision shakes the canyon as crack lines zigzag up the rock wall as gravels tumbled down.

This action persisted for almost two hours before it finally came to a stop, random patches of blue and black shows up on his skin. His handseals ceased, the pale golden glow dissipated and the flowing runes above the skin submerged into his flesh.

“This Golden-winged Garuda’s body refining law is a total self-torture ah.”

As he breathes out a mouth of foul qi, Du Shaofu couldn’t resist exclaiming out loud; to throw himself repeatedly against the rock wall without any xuanqi cushioning is a part of the Golden-winged Garuda’s training method. In the infancy stage, a Golden-winged Garuda swallows physique strengthening elixirs, and then proceed to bang itself against a wall in this self-torturing method until they’re barely alive, only during that time the body are at its most efficient in absorbing the benefits.

In human warriors’ cultivation, an elixir’s energy converts into xuanqi accumulating in the Shenque, waiting for an opportunity to break through.

Wicked beasts also convert swallowed elixirs or other similar treasures and converts the energy into own qi, but the Golden-winged Garuda absorbs the energy from elixirs into their flesh, strengthening their physique to a point of terror.

The Golden-winged Garuda physique refining law is divided into three stages; the first is to fortify the golden plumage, the second layer is tempering the bones and meridians cleansing and lastly, the third being refining the divine physique, and at that time the Golden-winged Garuda is one of the most terrifying existences under the heavens.

But Du Shaofu isn’t a wicked beast, but after practicing the Golden-winged Garuda’s exercise law, he realizes that he too could refine and temper his body using the same methods. He has skin and flesh instead of golden feathers, but he definitely could improve his defenses; as for the latter two stages, they are easy to understand.

The experiment just now proves his deduction that he’s able to temper his body according to the Golden-winged Garuda’s physique refining law; the elixir he used taken from the Xiantian level sturdy man of the White Panther Hunting Group he killed previously. After consuming the elixir and trained according to

the physique tempering, his whole body hurts like all his bones were about to scatter but he could clearly feel the energy from the elixir flowing into his flesh instead of being converted into xuanqi his body and gathered inside his Shenque. The energy from the elixir spread throughout his body, and the self-torture impact makes the flesh absorb the energy from the elixir more effectively.

If there's somebody physique can be as tough and terrifying just like one of the elite wicked beast, just thinking about it makes Du Shaofu excited. The first time practicing already made Du Shaofu clearly felt his body is a little bit stronger than before.

"Seems like I need to find more elixirs."

Du Shaofu thinks to himself. Du Shaofu puts on his clothes, and after a quick clean up his shadow, ghost-like leaves under the moonlight the canyon.

Early autumn of the year, the leaves begins to yellow, occasionally there are leaves falling. Sunlight streaming through the layers of foliage emphasizes, even more, the traces of golden yellow among the leaves, truly captivating.

"Ka cha, ka cha..."

Five brawny men were walking through the forest, stepping on dried branches making 'ka cha ka cha' noises as they passed by.

"Didn't expect Third Captain was killed off, dares to kill a person of my White Panther Hunting Group that guy must be griping about his long life."

"Some said Third Captain's killer a skinny youth, however, I think it's unlikely."

"Most likely there's some background to that youth, in short, as soon as we find that temerarious guy, we inform Second Chief and Third Chief to come and deal with them."

Du Shaofu shrinks his body which was hidden inside some bushes, frowning, judging from the conversation it seems killing the so-called Third Captain of the White Panther Hunting Group they have no intention of letting the matter slide, there are people all over the forest looking for him.

"Since it has come to this, the one who strikes first gains the upper hand[3]. I

wonder if there're any elixirs on their body.”

Under the bushes, Du Shaofu pupils' shrinks, his expression sank as he watches the five brawny men through the gaps of the bushes.

“I heard this time someone found a treasure inside Wild Beast Mountains it'll so great if I was the one who got it.”

“After the beast tides from a while ago, some people managed to grab those wicked beasts' fortunately our White Panther Hunting Group came in early and did not lose out. We've made a fortune once we sold off those things...”

The five brawny men walked slowly but instantly at the next moment grouped together in a defensive formation, alert to any sudden attacks proving the five of them are Wild Beast Mountains experienced beast hunters.

Note:

1. Killing/discarding the donkey after the grinding is done (idiom) – discarded when no longer of use.
2. Saliva (slang) refers to words; e.g: “Don't make me waste so much of my saliva, just do as I say!”
3. The one who strikes first gains the upper hand (idiom) – self-explanatory.

**Please highlight the mistakes noted to mgc.corrections@gmail.com

Please include the chapter and sentence. Thank you.

Chapter 33: Mountain Range Dead Hunt

Sometimes, when facing a dangerous situation experience probably counts more strength.

Originally, Du Shaofu has got no experience at all however surviving recent days had surely helped him accumulated some of it; this made him feel a little grateful towards the white-clothed lady, and it makes him wonder if she's still somewhere in Wild Beast Mountains.

“Wicked beasts are coming, quickly run ah!”

A minuscule smile etched on the corner of his mouth; Du Shaofu rushed out from the bush in disarray, panic on his face but his actions were very quick, heading towards the five men of the White Panther Hunting Group.

“Wicked beasts.”

Hearing someone shouting ‘wicked beasts’ behind them, the five men instantly turned around vigilantly, in full defense mode staring at a young man dashing towards them in panic, immediately one of them questioned loudly: “Kid, what wicked beasts?”

“At the back, there are wicked beasts coming behind...”

Du Shaofu quickly ran up to the group of five in ‘panic’ – frightened senseless.

“Where are there any wicked beasts behind...”

The earlier brawny man has yet to finished his sentence, Du Shaofu's already in front of him, with a wave of his hand a cold ray light slashed across the brawny man's neck in lightning speed, his unfinished words forever remain in his throat.

After eliminating the beast hunter, the panic on Du Shaofu's face was taken over by a cold sneer; with a flip of his hand another cold ray shot out slashing a

second beast hunter's chest. His left fist enveloped in xuanqi and with strange fluctuations fell heavily on a third beast hunter's chest.

“Bang Bang Bang!”

While small blasting rang out, that one punch's force was enough to carom him, whereby the second beast hunter fell to the ground, stuck on his chest is a sharp dagger, blood spurting out like a fountain.

The dagger belongs to a person of the White Panther Hunting Group that died the day before. Du Shaofu dealt with three beast hunters at lightning speed as if he had rehearsed the act; his quick speed makes it difficult for people to react in time.

“Who are you...? You are the one who killed the Third Captain...”

A short while later the remaining White Panther Hunting Group's beast hunters finally regained their wits.

“Bang!”

But, already too late, accompanied by a salvo of noise, a muscular man spat out blood from his mouth as his body flew back from a punch.

Du Shaofu move towards the last brawny man, a hint of edginess on his stalwart face, asked in a low voice: “How many of you are there in White Panther Hunting Group, how many Xiantian level warriors; what is the cultivation level of your Big Chief and Second Chief?”

“Overall, there are three hundred people in our White Panther Hunting Group, five Xiantian level cultivators; Second Chief is paramita layer Xiantian and Big Chief is already at atyanta layer Xiantian. You dared to kill persons from White Panther Hunting Group definitely will not walk out of Wild Beast Mountains alive.”

The brawny man stared at Du Shaofu his body trembled slightly; his words earlier were to boost his own courage a little, at the same time his left hand secretly took out a whistle, immediately placed it on his lips blowing out a high sharp sound.

“Was just waiting for you to inform your comrades!”

A tiny smile etched on the corner of Du Shaofu's mouth, his silhouette dashed and xuanqi wraps around his fists as another punch strike on the man's chest. The brawny man saw clearly the fist striking down his chest but powerless to dodge; when the fist landed, he could hear the sound of his ribs fracturing then his internal organs shattered into pieces from the impact, his life gradually dimmed.

After killing the last beast hunter, Du Shaofu swiftly searched all five bodies but unfortunately, he did not find any elixirs and couldn't help to feel disappointed.

All elixirs fetch a high price, these five men's strength aren't high and have little status within the hunting group; even if they manage to scour some elixirs inside Wild Beast Mountains, they are not qualified to keep it.

After grabbing some miscellaneous items, Du Shaofu surveyed the surrounding area, from around the forest shadows could be seen moving towards him.

From the mouth of the last brawny man, Du Shaofu knows White Panther Hunting Group only has five Xiantian level in total, and he had already killed one of them thus four remaining. The Second Chief is paramita layer Xiantian whereas the Big Chief is at atyanta layer Xiantian; if he is somehow surrounded the result will not be to his liking.

"White Panther Hunting Group."

Muttering softly, a smirk skims passed Du Shaofu's face as he turned around disappearing quickly.

More than a hundred people of White Panther Hunting Group rummaged the forest to find him; he had to think of a way to elude them. The more people are here, the easier it is for him to avoid detection. This is what they call a diversion tactic.

"Second Chief, our people are killed."

Moments later, more than thirty silhouettes looked respectfully at a fat man.

The fat man wore a murky expression on his face, squatting before the five corpses and examined them, the result only made his face turned even gloomier: "The killer is a Xiantian level warrior, they died the same way as the Third Captain; must be that brat who did it. I will tear him into thousand pieces!"

In the evening, another set of five corpses lie somewhere within the forest. The surrounding areas were not badly messed up; proof the killer made his kill neatly, killing of five people using the shortest time.

“Bastard, search, quickly search, we definitely must find that brat!”

The fat man lost his temper, his face looking incredibly ugly and his eyes filled with murderous aura.

Dusk. The sky grew dimmer however within the forest a blood-thirsty aura pierced the sky.

“Bastard, spread the message out, say that kid stole our White Panther Hunting Group’s ‘Dong level martial skill’. I want that brat to have nowhere to run nowhere to hide.” Beside the several corpses of White Panther’s beast hunters, the fat man roared furiously.

In the next few days, a rumor spread like wildfire – a young man stole the White Panther Hunting Group’s ‘Dong level martial skill’, and quite a number of White Panther Hunting Group’s people died by his hand; his movements mostly unpredictable which cause panic and fear inside the White Panther group.

“Don’t know what’s the young man’s background, he dares to make a move against the White Panther Hunting Group.”

“The White Panther Hunting Group’s Fat Dragon and Skinny Tiger are not to be trifled with; it’s absurd for a young man to be stronger than the both of them.”

“I heard that young man is also a Xiantian warrior, I guess he’s a descendant of a prominent sect or a renowned family, or he wouldn’t dare to challenge the White Panther Hunting Group; anyway this time ‘round the White Panther Hunting Group’s sure got a loud slap to the face.”

“I heard Skinny Tiger headed to Spirit Gorge, hearsay recently the spiritual aura became overly concentrated most probably due to a high-grade elixir maturing.

“High-grade elixir could fetch an extremely high price, let’s go and have a look, who knows that we might be able to get it...”

Within the mountains, sporadic conversations could be heard from small

teams passing by; the most popular topic of discussions are relevant to the mysterious young man and White Panther Hunting Group.”

“High-grade elixir.”

Du Shaofu’s figure which was hidden by the forest surfaced, and his eyes brightened; the physique refining law of the Golden-winged Garuda prompted his need for a significant amount of elixirs, and the higher the grade of the elixir the better the result.

“Really insidious.”

Du Shaofu’s brows scrunched up, White Panther Hunting Group actually spread the rumor that he stole a ‘Dong level martial skill’. A ‘Dong level martial skill enable one to link to one’s martial pulse – a Maidong warrior’s martial skill; a Dong level martial skill’s value is attractive enough to lure every beast hunter and mercenary within Wild Beast Mountain to relief it from him.

His figure emerged only for a few seconds before disappearing again among the forest.

...

Sunsets in the mountain range, colors of clementine-red filled half the sky.

“That kid’s right in front, chase quickly.”

“There a Dong level martial skill on that boy, don’t let him run away...”

A rare peaceful dusk on the edge of Wild Beast Mountains was suddenly broken by numerous loud shouts, chasing on a dead hunt kept resounding within the forest.

“Such an insidious guy.”

In front of the pursuing crowd, Du Shaofu ran as quickly as he can while cursing under his breath, spat out in an aggressive manner at some bushes as he ran past. Unfortunately, he was discovered by some people nearby when he was killing another batch of White Panther Hunting Group’s people and fell into an endless pursuit.

“Brat, where can you run, you’re definitely will die today!”

A slightly stout middle-aged man who looked clumsy but his has incredible speed; shouting aloud while pursuing Du Shaofu, a cold sneer on his face. Behind the middle-aged man, various figures were dashing towards his direction; a blatant dead hunt begins in the mountain range.

Du Shaofu dares not linger; it'll bad if he's surrounded, as the saying goes two fists is hard to contend with four hands.

The stout middle-aged man squint his eyes watching the back of the fleeing young man, his expression turned dark – it didn't cross his mind the young man would be so agile.

“Let's see how far you can run; Dragon Strolling Step!”

With a loud howl, xuanqi fluctuates around his body, under the soles of his feet streams of xuanqi gushed out and as if the Gods were aiding him; his body surged forward rapidly closing in on Du Shaofu, devouring the distance between them.

“Movement martial skill.”

Sensing the vibration of piercing wind behind him, Du Shaofu hastily turned his head back to look; and he was greatly surprised. Clearly, the stout middle-aged man used a movement type skill to increase his speed; with a faint pale gold light spilling out from his body, Du Shaofu too increased his speed, maintaining distance running towards the mountain range in front.

Two people; one in front running and one at the back chasing, from behind them can loud shout of other pursuers resounding through the forest, it's just that none of their speed is comparable to the stout middle-aged man. Awhile later only left the stout middle-aged man chasing behind Du Shaofu.

“Brat, you won't be able to escape today.”

Half an hour later, the stout middle-aged man shortened the distance, chasing closer and closer behind Du Shaofu, his meaty face filled with murderous killing intent. Xuanqi gathered in his palm condensed into a whip-like gust of wind directly striking Du Shaofu's back.

Sensing the wind-like attack coming from the back he looked back; on his left hand, xuanqi fluctuates like waves, clashed against the incoming whip-like wind.

Note:

Atyanta means perfect in Sanskrit; in the raws it was ‘圆满’ yuánmǎn.
(You guys probably think my word(s) of choice’s freaky weird.)

Chapter 34: Killing 'Fat Dragon'

"Bang!"

Two opposing Xuanqi collides causing the air to ripple from the impact; a layer of soil scrape off the ground due to raging winds, gravels shooting off in four directions.

"Early Xiantian."

The fat man's gloomy expression shifts into a cold sneer; from the young man's attack just now he could tell that he's only an early Xiantian warrior. Although can be said the same Xiantian warrior, however, the four layers within Xiantian realm – early, mysterious, paramita and atyanta, brings about a world of difference in strength and power with each small realm's advance. Him, a paramita layer Xiantian could easily destroy an early Xiantian warrior with a snap of his fingers; the disparity of cultivation strength is not an easily overcome hurdle.

"Paramita layer Xiantian, White Panther Hunting Group's Fat Dragon."

Du Shaofu looked at the fat middle-aged man in front of him, apart from the slightly tilted eyebrow, not much can derive from his placid expression. From the jumbled up information that he could glean from the lips of the several White Panther Hunting Group's people that he had killed in this couple of days, he could instantly guess the identity of the person in front from the exchange earlier.

"Brat, you guessed right; now go die in peace!"

Fat Dragon said coldly; a strong killing intent is radiating from his eyes; he finally caught up with this brat, why would he leave him unscathed? With a cold snort, xuanqi jetted from the bottom of his feet as he stamped heavily on the

ground. His fat silhouette swooped down on Du Shaofu with surprising nimbleness, one of his feet aims at Du Shaofu's chest with extreme velocity.

“Big Dipper Kick[1].”

Xuanqi surges on the incoming kick; creating violent gusts of wind that seems to cut through space, instantaneously arriving before Du Shaofu's chest.

Du Shaofu's expression unnoticeably stirred, but he has no intention to dodge; forming handseals, waves of xuanqi burst out from him causing the space around him rippling like boiling water. His aura, fierce and sharp just like an awakened beast.

“Raging Storm Waves Palm!”

Suddenly, a loud blast resounded through the air; Du Shaofu's handseals forming waves of turbulent winds that is visible to the naked eye disperses outwards slamming into the incoming kick, crashing against it again and again.

“Boom!”

Fat Dragon's figure inverted back from the impact; his roundish figure turned three hundred sixty degrees, his knees bent, and he staggered backward a few steps before coming to a stop, trying to leverage off the impact.

Whereas Du Shaofu also stumbled back two steps awkwardly, Du Shaofu was a little astounded – the him that reached Xiantian warrior using Raging Storm Waves Palm yet did not manage to gain any advantage. Back when he lack the cultivation level solely depending on Raging Storm Waves Palm he could push back an elite ninth layer Houtian disciple of Sky Serpent Sect, which only proves the huge disparity between early and paramita layers of Xiantian.

“As expected, there's some strength otherwise Third Bro[2] wouldn't be killed.”

When Fat Dragon looked at Du Shaofu again, shock flashed across his beady eyes on a gloomy face; he being a paramita layer Xiantian actually did not gain the upper hand just now. After the shock had passed, his killing intent deepened and display clearly in his eyes, grinning nastily, said: “Boy, even though you have a little strength but before me, you only have one end. Dying under my ‘Hermetic Blast Boxing’ is your honor!”

When Fat Dragon finished, the xuanqi swirling around his body actually diffuses a sweltering heat; the surrounding temperature rises rapidly as if the entire space is broiling. As he condenses handseals, a flame-like layer wraps around his fists like a second skin; occasionally flame-like runes can be seen rolling and jumping within.

“Hermetic Blast Boxing, go!”

When the fist-print was condensed out, Fat Dragon revealed a sinister face, the fist-print looked like a ball of fire appearing in front of Du Shaofu with lightning speed, mercilessly smashing down with all its might; seemingly able to end the fight with one move.

In fact, Fat Dragon could already see the corpse of the young man sprawled dead on the ground in his mind – Hermetic Blast Boxing is an atyanta Xiantian grade martial skill, almost comparable to a Dong level martial skill. This also is his strongest attack. Countless Xiantian level wicked beasts and Xiantian warriors in Wild Beast Mountains have suffered under his Hermetic Blast Boxing.

“Not a bad Xiantian martial skill.”

At this moment of impending death, Du Shaofu actually smiled; condensing another handseal similar to the one before. With him as the center, angry violent waves of winds gathered in the air; myriads of world energy in the area seem to be pulled by Du Shaofu, rotates around him. His aura becomes increasingly domineering as pale golden runes glow, like a volcano about to erupt.

“Connecting martial pulse, Maidong level.”

Fat Dragon’s sight noticed the glowing runes and the sudden fierce aura, the pupils in his beady eyes shrinks; the opponent actually had the ability to connect with his martial pulse. Connecting with one’s martial pulse is only possible after reaching Maidong level and the youth in front clearly is just an early Xiantian, how could he be possibly connecting his martial pulse.

Everything happened in the blink of an eye, the fist and the palm collided.

“Raging Storm Waves Palm.”

The same Raging Storm Waves Palm, however, the power this move contain is entirely unlike the previous palm. This round of attack, Du Shaofu used the

perfected version instead of the standard version of Raging Storm Waves Palm earlier.

“BOOM!”

At this moment, the perfected version of Raging Storm Waves Palm slap forward with a salvo of thundering blast, waves of fierce raging winds crash time and time again against the blazing fireball.

The deafening ‘boom’ resounded throughout the forest, and when the loud noise died down, a bone breaking sound ‘ka cha’ was heard coming from Fat Dragon’s fist. Intense pain obvious on his face as his body flew out and blood were flowing from his mouth.

“Ka cha!”

As he flew back a few meters away, his body crashed into a boulder, and the force of impact instantly shatter the boulder, crumbling into pieces.

“Not good, this kid is too strong.”

Fat Dragon landed on a heap of gravel struggles to stand up, ignoring the blood flowing out from his mouth; he swiftly turns around trying to bolt for years of experience fumbling within Wild Beast Mountains has honed his escape velocity.

“Did you really think you were able to catch up to me, I was just waiting for you to catch up.”

At this time Du Shaofu’s figure dashed out, just when Fat Dragon’s heels was about to make his getaway, a silhouette pounced on him with arms wide open similar to a Golden-winged Garuda spreading its wings; like a goshawk hunting its prey.

At this precise moment, the feeble Fat Dragon felt as if a real Garuda was sweeping down on him, especially the horrifying atmosphere solidifies the surreal image.

“Boom!”

The spread opened right hand strikes down, as if a Garuda flapping its wings, striking ruthlessly onto Fat Dragon’s body that his body once again flew a dozen

meters back smashing into a huge tree. The tree tumbled down and split apart; crack lines the ground, and violent wind swirls like a tornado.

“Sou Sou!”

From the other side of the mountains, the pursuing crowd consists of White Panther Hunting Groups and other mercenaries finally caught up, arriving at the scene in front of them, they involuntary sucked in a cold breath, immediately halted their steps; not daring to inch another foot forward. Even the paramita layer Xiantian Fat Dragon is currently lying on the ground. The youth is unexpectedly stronger than they imagined.

“Bang!”

Du Shaofu’s silhouette appeared above the dying Fat Dragon and a fist punched down directly ending Fat Dragon’s life. His action was neat and tidy, ruthless, and overbearing – scaring off the newly arrive pursuers. A dignified Second Chief of the White Panther Hunting Group, a paramita layer Xiantian warrior, *the* Fat Dragon was kill in such overbearing way by the youth.

The endless cries from the pursuers finally silenced. Beast hunters from the White Panther Hunting Group no longer dare to reveal themselves after witnessing the death of their Second Chief – killed without mercy by the young man; they couldn’t even hide fast enough.

Du Shaofu’s hand searched Fat Dragon’s body, whatever he could take away are place between his bosoms.

“Come up if you want to die.”

Du Shaofu glances over at the group of pursuers, a sharp trace of chill flashed across his eyes.

“What scary eyes, just like a fierce wicked beast.”

Looking at the coldness in Du Shaofu’s eyes, a couple of figures involuntarily steps back. Deterred by the death of Fat Dragon, everyone’s eyes held a touch of fear, refuses to be in close proximity to this person.

Taking a last glance at the crowd, Du Shaofu turned around and left. No one is brave enough to stop him – with Fat Dragon’s corpse lying there acting as the

best deterrence, no one present is willing to mess with that terrifying youth.

After turning around, Du Shaofu's face pale instantly, losing all of his colors. He had exhausted all his energy to kill Fat Dragon; especially when he used the perfect version of Raging Storm Waves Palm, he practically emptied out the xuanqi in his Shenque, and at this moment he desperately needs a safe place to recover his strength.

“Just now was too risky.”

Du Shaofu said to himself, had he failed to deter the pursuers from the White Panther Hunting Group and the mercenaries, the consequences will be severe. At the end of his tethers, he currently has no strength at all to attack. Fortunately, Fat Dragon's body provided the much-needed deterrence.

A tiny complacent smile crept up Du Shaofu's face. Killing Fat Dragon was something he had planned earlier on; although that Fat Dragon knows a movement martial skill and a paramita layer Xiantian cultivation but Du Shaofu who cultivates in the Golden-winged Garuda's exercise law has an advantage in terms of speed, definitely not so easily caught by Fat Dragon.

Noticing Fat Dragon alone continued to pursue him without any backup nearby, the escaping Du Shaofu hatched up a plan to eliminate Fat Dragon. The result is just as he had imagined.

Note:

1. 天罡脚 – The first two characters read as Tiāngāng; replacing the last character with 星, we have The Big Dipper Star hence the name ‘Big Dipper Foot’.
2. Third Bro here refers for the Third Captain.

p/s: Mistakes too horrible to mention? Pls email mgc.corrections@gmail.com
TQ!

Chapter 35: Snatch!

Night, the forest moves with the gentle wind.

At the bottom of a valley, Du Shaofu sits cross-legged; running Golden-winged Garuda's exercise law to readjust his condition as pale golden glows wraps around his body, giving off a mysterious and profound feeling.

...

Spirit Gorge, located at the periphery of Wild Beast Mountains has layers of canyons overlapping, and sharp cliff pointing towards the sky. Every day at dawn and dusk, dense fogs blankets the whole gorge, making visibility non-existent.

According to rumors, the bottom of the gorge are lairs to the more powerful Wicked beasts that even beast hunting teams will not venture near the gorge recklessly.

However, in recent days a mob has been gathering at the outer edge of Spirit Gorge, and the number increases each day; but at the moment no one is brave enough to enter the gorge as yet.

The night's cold like freezing water as the bright moon hangs high upon the Heavens.

From the bottom of the gorge, a strong concentrated aura spreads out; making those who smell it feeling refresh and clear headed.

In the outer area of Spirit Gorge, a huge boulder occupied by about a dozen young man and women; they are none other than the disciples of Mystical Talisman House.

Zhu Xue, Guo Ming, and Shen Yan stands fore positions within this group, looking at the several figures standing approximately a hundred meters apart;

Zhu Xue's brow creases, and her cherry lips mouths lightly: "Sky Serpent Sect's people are also here."

"Senior Brother Shen Yan, most of our disciples are killed by Sky Serpent Sect's people, we must avenge them!" Guo Ming said to Shen Yan.

Shen Yan is also observing the Sky Serpent Sect group, his expression surly; said: "Sky Serpent Sect is together with White Panther Hunting Group if we make our move now we will not gain any advantage."

"Shen Yan, you're quite early."

Another dozen of figures emerges consisting of young people between seventeen to eighteen years old; a young man dressed in embroidered robe and another in a short-sleeved shirt. The young man dressed in embroidered robe leaps up to the boulder, his burning eyes staring lecherously at Zhu Xue.

"Lin Boguang[1], Wang Yuan, you just arrive?"

Seeing this Shen Yan swiftly step forward, aware of Lin Boguang's lewd gaze on Zhu Xue's body, dislike shows in his eyes however it disappeared quickly that no one notices.

The young man dressed in embroidered robe ignores Shen Yan, contrarily, the short-sleeved young man answer Shen Yan: "Shen Yan, according to our previous agreement, Blacknether Sect will temporarily cooperate with Mystical Talisman House to deal with Sky Serpent Sect's Lu Kun, however, who gets the elixir depends on ability."

"No problem." Shen Yan nodded.

"May I ask this Junior Sister's name, I'm called Lin Boguang, let's be friends?" The embroidered robe young man came beside Zhu Xue, his eyes roving all over Zhu Xue's body nonstop, as if he's found a prey.

Zhu Xue glances at Lin Boguang with an overt coldness that's capable of repelling people thousand miles away: "Please behave." [2]

With the words out, her slender silhouette turns towards the direction of the gorge, not wanting to trouble herself with Lin Boguang.

"You've got personality, I like it. Sooner or later you will be my, Lin Boguang's

woman.”

Lin Boguang said to Zhu Xue, standing next to her with his hands behind his back, and with a ‘haha’ laugh, he too shifts his sight onto the gorge, said: “From the looks of it, the elixir’s maturing very soon. I wonder in whose hands the elixir will fall into at the end. I heard many powerful Wicked beasts make their home inside Spirits Gorge. To obtain the elixir won’t be an easy thing.”

“With Mystical Talisman House and Blacknether Sect joining hands, our chances are bigger.” Shen Yuan replies, staring at Lin Boguang’s back, a ray of chill flitted across his eyes unnoticeably.

Far away, from the other side of the hills, Lu Kun looks at Shen Yan, Lin Boguang and the others standing on the huge boulder, his face darkens into sullen expression; and said to the middle-aged man beside him who is two meters tall, so skinny that ribs seem to stick out of his chest: “Head Captain[3], the kid that killed Second and Third Captain is not with them, but it’s a guarantee that kid have some connections with Mystical Talisman House.”

“Someone will have to pay the price for Second Bro and Third Bro’s death, regardless if that kid has connections with Mystical Talisman House or not, I will not let it slide.” Skinny Tiger’s eyes are fill with piercing chill.

One night passed. When light takes over darkness the morning sunlight pours down onto the earth; suddenly in the depths of the gorge, a bright iridescent glow invades the sky.

“Boom!”

An iridescent glow tainted with the color of blood shines out from the gorge, looking like a rising sun in mid-air for a long time. A strong aura fluctuations spread out from the depths of the gorge.

“The high-grade elixir is maturing, quickly grab!”

Almost instantly, numerous points of xuanqi burst out at the outer edge of the gorge; shadows are dashing out one after another diving into the depths of the gorge. Sounds of piercing wind fill Spirit Gorge and the dense morning fogs were thinned out by the number of people rushing into the gorge.

“The elixir’s matured, go!”

Xuanqi fluctuates on Shen Yan, Lin Boguang, Wang Yuan, Guo Ming, Zhu Xue and the rest of the disciples as they rush into the gorge, leaving behind streaks of afterimages.

Silhouettes moves within the fog-filled gorge, Shen Yan, Zhu Xue, Lin Boguang, Wang Yuan, Lu Kun, and Skinny Tiger were the quickest three groups to enter the gorge; all of their sights fixed to the top of a large boulder.

In one of the crevices, there is a one-foot tall stem of red ganoderma as thick as an infant's arm; billowing blood-red glow that seems to pierce the sky. The blood-red ganoderma has a unique appearance that's similar to an infant's, vivid and realistic as blood-red runes float around it, and diffuses strong aura causing everyone's eyes to aflame with greed.

"That's Blood-Infant Ganoderma[4], taking it strengthens the martial pulse; and it is the main ingredient for refining spirit-grade dans."

"Blood-Infant Ganoderma is absolutely a treasure, especially for Maidong level warriors."

Blacknether Sect, Mystical Talisman House, Sky Serpent Sect without exception starts to make their moves and attack after just one look at the one-foot stem.

Others surrounding warriors were also quick to start fighting for it. Instantly, intense battles sparks all around the vicinity of the elixir; whenever someone gets too near to the Blood-Infant Ganoderma will result in a combined attack from all four directions thus no one person is able to get too close.

"Ji~!"

Out of nowhere, from above the dense mid-air fogs, a sharp cry rang out followed by an enormous flying beast swooping down. In general, flying beasts at the very least can reach up to thirty meters in length, and its spread wings seem to be able to cover the sky. Its talons and beak emit edgy sharp rays diving into the midst of battles and grabs talons full of warriors, tearing them apart into pieces in mid-air; letting the blood and pieces of flesh rain down the gorge.

"Howl!"

Then, from deep bellow the gorge roars of Wicked beasts resounded; more

than a hundred Wicked beasts dashing out. The first few fierce Wicked beasts at the fore are more than thirty meters tall, randomly gorging through the warriors, leaving dismembered corpses in its path.

“Not good, these Wicked beasts want the Blood-Infant Ganoderma, and they very powerful.”

People that were fighting among themselves immediately flee in panic; the wicked beasts up in the sky and on the ground cause their hearts to shiver; not one of them had imagined that suddenly so many terrifying Wicked beasts shows up.

The appearance of these Wicked beasts as they swipe away the fog and display their might is not something these human warriors are capable of fighting.

As the cries and roars of the Wicked beasts continue to resound; accompanying it are the agonizing screams and heart-wrenching wails of human warriors being torn apart alive.

The groups lead Shen Yan, Zhu Xue, Lin Boguang, Wang Yuan, Lu Kun immediately retreats; with these many terrifying Wicked beasts blocking the path, even if the Blood-Infant Ganoderma is right in front of them, they won't dare to touch it.

“Flee ah.”

There are even loud cries telling others to flee for their lives; their strengths are too low this group of attacking Wicked beasts. Faces turn white one by one; it didn't cross anyone's mind that there would be so many fierce Wicked beasts appearing.

“Quick, look there; who's that? Actually not afraid of these Wicked beasts!”

At this moment, suddenly someone exclaimed in surprise seeing there's someone in the mid of the Wicked Beasts. As the young man strides forward a pale golden glow that wraps around his straight-back silhouette, in big strides the young man walks towards the Blood-Infant Ganoderma.

“Ao Ao.”

“Ji~Ji~”

The Wicked beasts on the ground and up in the sky growl towards the young man however as if afraid of something, none of them dares to block the young man's path.

...

"That's Brother Shaofu."

Surprise evident in Guo Ming's eyes and the next moment joy fills his face; the straight-back young man is none other than Du Shaofu.

"It's him."

Zhu Xue, Shen Yan, Lu Kun including Lin Boguang, Wang Yuan, and the others recognizes Du Shaofu; multiple pairs of shock eyes stares directly at the middle of the gorge.

Wherever the straight-back young man steps the surrounding Wicked beasts immediately retreats; under cover of the pale golden glow the straight back young man is akin to a Supreme being descending, a Beast King coming out.

That young man, of course, is Du Shaofu. When he heard there's an elixir maturing, and he needs a lot of them practicing the Golden-winged Garuda's physique refining law, this is an opportunity he wouldn't want to miss.

To truth is, Du Shaofu had early on arrived at Spirit Gorge; and from afar he saw the disciples of Mystical Talisman House and Sky Serpent Sect, it's just that he didn't show himself for snatching away the elixir is the utmost important thing.

Du Shaofu himself isn't clear of the reasons why the Wicked Beasts within the Wild Beast Mountains were so keen to avoid him, but one thing he's clear about is, in front of Wicked Beasts he has an undeniable advantage. Most of the Wicked beasts are deter by the atmosphere from the Golden-winged Garuda's exercise law that he cultivates, all the more reason for him to take advantage of this very moment.

Wrapped in the pale golden glow, Du Shaofu boldly stride pass all 'obstacles' as the Wicked beasts quickly retreats away from him, finally with a leap up and he reaches the spot where the Blood-Infant Ganoderma grows.

A sharp fluctuation came from the ganoderma filling Du Shaofu with delight; this elixir is truly extraordinary and will greatly supplement him in strengthening his physique.

“Roar!”

Exactly at this moment, in mid-air the fogs separated and violent gusts of wind spreads revealing an enormous flying tiger. Its entire body covered with majestic runic scales, a pair of great huge wings at its back, while its mouth issues a terrifying roar. Its wings spread wide reaches sixty meters long, and at the moment it is eyeing Du Shaofu malignantly, very obvious that it fancies the Blood-Infant Ganoderma.

“Heavens, that’s a Demon Scale Tiger; its strength is comparable to the existence of a Wicked Beast’s King.”

“This Demon Scale Tiger’s atmosphere is so strong; possibly even Maidong level warriors are unable to subdue it.”

The surrounding crowd aghast with the sudden appearance of the Demon Scale Tiger; when it flaps its wings the people below finds it hard to breath and the force of the winds sends them trembling in fright.

Du Shaofu lifts up his head and looks at the Demon Scale Tiger in mid-air; without warning Du Shaofu entire body burst out in a dazzling pale golden light as he condenses handseals, golden runes swirls around his body. A domineering edgy burst forth from his body like a flash flood, and golden light shines brightly piercing through the sky; vaguely within the golden as if a Golden-winged Garuda is spreading its wings wanting to soar to the heavens.

At the same time, Du Shaofu scolds loudly: “Evil beast, leave now!”

Note:

1. 林-Forest 伯 –Count (it also means Uncle) 光 – Bright /Ray
Pun-伯光, read with a slightly different tone means ‘stripped naked’ which brings us to his ahem, lecherous personality.

2. 'Please behave' actually is 'Please watch your conduct' but the former is preferred.
3. Head Captain/Second Captain is referred as Big Chief/Second Chief in previous chapters. The Author used 'tangjia' in previous chapters and 'tuan zhang' in this one, the differentiation is in how the subordinates/beast hunters and outsiders call them.
4. 血婴灵芝 (Xue Ying Lingzhi) – lit. Blood-Infant Ganoderma; even though it may sound unappetizing...

Mistakes/Fixes? Pls email mgc.corrections.com TQ!

Chapter 36: Hate People Snatching My Things

“Roar.”

The Demon Scale Tiger roars furiously, its malignant eyes looking at Du Shaofu now held traces of fear, not daring to covet the Blood-Infant Ganoderma anymore, quickly flaps its wings and fly away.

“Such a strong atmosphere, how could there be such a strong atmosphere!”

Everyone within the distance exclaims aloud; that Demon Scale Tiger was scared away with just one shout from the young man. This is too overbearing and simply inconceivable, who exactly is that young man.

Du Shaofu turns back and quickly picks the Blood-Infant Ganoderma from the root up; causing the blood-red iridescent glow which fills the gorge to disappear and the much-coveted elixir finally falls into Du Shaofu’s hands. Leaping down from the large boulder he heads into the deeper parts of the gorge without so much as a look back, not intending to leave Spirit Gorge at all.

Watching the silhouette walking into the depths of the gorge, and gradually fades into the sea of fog the shock eyes following the young man went into a daze. The Blood-Infant Ganoderma that every person here covets and was fighting for taken away by a young man so effortlessly.

Shen Yan, Lin Boguang, Wang Yuan and Lu Kun’s expressions were ugly to the extreme; never did they imagine the result would be like this – especially Shen Yan. From the beginning, he was guarded before the youth with an unknown background assuming he would compete for the elixir if he were to follow them. Unexpectedly, it’s mantis stalking the cicada, unaware the oriole is behind; in the

end, the elixir still falls into Du Shaofu's hand.

"The Blood-Infant Ganoderma cannot fall into that brat's hand, CHASE!"

Eventually, there's a person could no longer restrain themselves watching the Blood-Infant Ganoderma disappearing right under their eyes, starts to chase after Du Shaofu. Earlier, facing against Du Shaofu's overbearing aura, honestly, none of them dares to oppose him; however, there's might in numbers and everyone feels braver as the number of people chasing Du Shaofu increases, nobody holds back and dives after Du Shaofu without a second thought. By one by one, the figures dash into the depths of Spirit Gorge.

"Roar."

"Ao ao."

The Wicked beasts start to move again, as if they too are extremely unwilling to see Blood-Infant Ganoderma snatched away, venting out their frustrations and anger onto the people within the gorge, resuming the mass slaughter. Those wanting to chase after Du Shaofu died vainly; their stomachs slashed open, intestines pouring out, and blood swamps the ground whereas those slightly stronger also suffers unimaginable ending as their lesser comrades grab them from behind to save themselves...

...

Deep below Spirit Gorge, under the sunlight the thick clouds of fog gradually dissipate.

"Sou sou!"

Du Shaofu's silhouette flees through the gorge speedily. Being unafraid of Wicked beasts doesn't mean that he's not afraid of those people waiting outside, ready to snatch the elixir from him. If he takes the Blood-Infant Ganoderma out of Spirit Gorge, those hyenas will surely besiege him; to leave safely is basically a daydream.

The Wicked beasts' roars coming from behind gradually grow faints, but Du Shaofu remains vigilant, the further he goes the safer he would be.

"Gu!"

In mid-air, an enormous red falcon appears; its sharp gaze bears a dangerous glint. Flapping its wings in mid-air sending down gusts of hot wind akin to a violent storm.

“Giant Flaming Falcon.”

Du Shaofu looks up, his eyes instantly become wary. That large red falcon turns out to be a Giant Flaming Falcon, judging from its breath it seems very powerful—not weaker compared to the previous Demon Scales Tiger, however, the main reason for Du Shaofu’s increase wariness is due to the several figures on the back of the Giant Flaming Falcon. Their strength definitely is not weak.

“Xiu!”

The Giant Flaming Falcon circles at low altitude, and a tangerine-red figure leaps down from its back; a young girl wearing a tight-fitting tangerine red dress appears before Du Shaofu.

“The Blood-Infant Ganoderma is not something someone of your capability can have; handover the Blood-Infant Ganoderma and you can safely leave.”

The young girl’s eyes that look at Du Shaofu were clear and bright. Her tangerine-red dress emphasizes her tiny waist and long jade-like legs make her look even slimmer and taller; beneath her refined temperament, there’s a distinct clear-cut attitude. Her words are denying Du Shaofu the right to refuse.

Looking at the young girl in front, feeling the breath fluctuations coming from her, Du Shaofu’s instinct screams danger. It seems these people were present at the Spirit Gorge from the beginning; also aiming for Blood-Infant Ganoderma. His xuanqi silently fluctuates inside his body while he raises one eyebrow said: “I hate people snatching my things, even though it’s snatch by beautiful women. You want the Blood-Infant Ganoderma, dream on!”

“You think I’m beautiful?”

The young girl smiles faintly, and her delicate face seems to blossom; mesmerizing those who sees it.

“Already consider not bad; compare to the women I’ve seen, you are consider the top.”

Du Shaofu nods his head; no doubt the young girl in front is gorgeous with an exceptional temperament. Her tall, slim figure is akin to a stem of lofty snow lotus; definitely not of common background. Unnoticeably, in his mind, the image of the Elf-like girl flashes across his mind.

The tangerine-red dress young girl tilts an eyebrow, in her bright clear eyes were a hint of surprise; the young man in front gives her an indescribable feeling. Below Spirit Gorge, that domineering scene is visibly clear from the spot she was standing; and facing that awe-inspiring young man at this moment, though her expression seemingly calm, actually is just a front that she puts up exerting strenuous effort.

“It seems you have some ability, but since you’re not going to handover voluntarily then I can only take it myself by force.”

The young girl walks up slowly to Du Shaofu, the movement of her long legs teasing along with her calm voice. As her steps draw closer; there’re visible xuanqi fluctuations at the soles of her feet, increasing her speed. As the distance between them shortens, xuanqi wraps around her leg, and she kicks out at Du Shaofu, leaving behind a streak of tangerine-red.

“Want to snatch my Blood-Infant Ganoderma; then I will ‘snatch’ you back to be my maid!”

Seeing the delicate figure leaping towards him, Du Shaofu also shouts loudly; rushing forward instead of retreating smashing out his perfected version of Raging Storm Waves Palm as his body glows a pale gold with runes floating around him. The energy fluctuations instantly push back the young girl.

“Only a Xiantian, how could he connect to his martial pulse...”

The young girl is shaken. The atmosphere surrounding the young man shocks her. Her foot lightly taps the ground; and as she spins up, from her slender hands a palm-print gently floats out, wrap in flickering runes clashes into Du Shaofu’s palm print.

“Bang!”

A blast resounded, and Du Shaofu inverted back due to the impact force, staggering back a dozen steps before stabilizing himself; that gentle floating

palm contains a terribly huge power.

“A Maidong level warrior.”

Du Shaofu was shocked, the young girl before him is definitely not a Xiantian level warrior; if not, it's impossible to push him back.

“An early Xiantian but to have such strength; undeniably you do have some ability.”

Shock flitted across the young girl's eyes, but instantly at the next second she makes her next move; she spurts forward borrowing the force from the movement skill at the same time her slender hands forms seals condensing palm-prints one after another just like a celestial maiden scattering flower petals, enveloping Du Shaofu.

Du Shaofu's expression sank, his hands swiftly condense mysterious-looking handseals, runes of pale gold swirls around his body and an increasingly overbearing atmosphere emit from his body. His right hand lifts up akin to a Golden-winged Garuda flapping its wing, slaps straight at the incoming palm-prints.

“Chi la la!”

Golden rays of light burst out like gusts of violent gale, shattering the vast area palm-print midway.

“Xiu!”

Shock once again appears in the young girl's eyes. Her silhouette suddenly appears right in front of Du Shaofu, her slender hand strikes at Du Shaofu's chest without delay.

When he saw the palm strikes down, Du Shaofu instantly retreats to the back; however, the seemingly soft palm was faster than he imagines.

The young girl's brows crease together as if she didn't expect Du Shaofu to react this quickly, immediately quickens her palm leaving a palm arc in mid-air giving the illusion that it pierce through space barrier to stamp on Du Shaofu's chest.

At this point, unable to avoid the attack his body flew back from the force of

that palm.

“Bang!”

Du Shaofu staggered back, his face a sheet of white and from his throat he tasted a trace of sweetness.

“It seems you won’t be taking me back as your maid!”

The young girl lands gently on the ground, and observes Du Shaofu with a bright smile on her face as if no longer has the intention to give chase; confident the opponent could no longer escape her.

Furtively glancing behind him, Du Shaofu continues to step back, and unconsciously he had already arrived at the edge of a cliff; thick clouds of fogs rolls in the air and the depths below the cliff unfathomable. At the edge of the cliff, there’s no more path for him to retreat for the young girl in front of him blocks the only way out.

“Gu~!”

The Giant Flaming Falcon continues to hover at low altitude, but there are traces of fear in its eyes as it looks at Du Shaofu; the golden glow emanating from Du Shaofu earlier makes it shiver in fright and ill at ease.

Du Shaofu tilts up his head, looking at the several figures on the back of the Giant Flaming Falcon then shifts his gaze back at the young girl in front of him: “That’s right, today I won’t be able to bring you back as my maid because you are stronger than me.”

“Early Xiantian cultivation, you already are quite strong; if our level of cultivation is the same, I’m afraid I won’t be able to deal with you. I’m giving you one last chance, handover the Blood-Infant Ganoderma and I will not embarrass you.” The young girl said to Du Shaofu.

“I’ve said earlier; I hate people snatching my things the most, and even if though you are pretty, it’s not an exception.”

Du Shaofu laughs, smiling with his pale face. And when his smile vanished, he took out the Blood-Infant Ganoderma and stuffed it in his mouth right in front of the young girl before she can even react. Wolfing down the Blood-Infant

Ganoderma and in just a few breathes time he had swallowed the Blood-Infant Ganoderma into his belly.

The young girl stood rooted to the spot, dumbstruck; how could the Blood-Infant Ganoderma be taken directly. That is the main ingredient for refining high-grade dans ah, especially when it is ingested directly by a Xiantian warrior. The warrior will explode from the enormous violent energy, definitely gambling with one's life.

The young girl had wanted the Blood-Infant Ganoderma, something she deem already hers but who would've thought the young man would pull such a crazy stunt, to directly swallow the Blood-Infant Ganoderma.

“What are you doing, halt your mouth immediately.”

When the young girl regained her senses, she quickly shouted loudly; her slim silhouette pounces onto Du Shaofu with lightning speed. How could she let go of the Blood-Infant ganoderma when it is within arm's reach.

Chapter 37: Breakthrough to Mysterious Layer Xiantian

“Chase me if you can~.”

Enshrouded in a pale golden glow, Du Shaofu dived off the cliff, his plummeting body covered by the thick fogs that filled Spirit Gorge.

The young girl’s reaction was a split second late, and her slim figure stopped at the edge of the cliff. She angrily stamped her feet, but there was no way for her to continue the chase. The bottom of the ravine had no safe landing spot. Even if the flying beast flew to the bottom of the ravine, it would be difficult to search for a person in this thick fog.

Sou Sou!”

From the Giant Flaming Falcon’s back, several figures rushed to the young girl’s side. An alarmed fifty-year-old man in a wide yellow robe said: “Is this kid looking for death? A Xiantian jumping off this cliff, death is definite! Even if he swallowed the Blood-Infant Ganoderma it is useless. It doesn’t matter that he dies but destroying a high-grade elixir, what an abominable brat!”

“Huang Lao, can we go search for him below?” The young girl looks down the cliff irreconcilably. It never crosses her mind the young man would directly eat the Blood-Infant Ganoderma and to continue his insanity by jumping off the deep cliff; without a doubt this gambling with one’s life. That young man’s absolutely crazy! A sane person wouldn’t throw his life away for a stem of Blood-Infant Ganoderma.

The older man looked at the young girl and shook his head. “Eldest Princess, the fog below is too thick, even with the Giant Flaming Falcon we won’t be able

to find him, but I'm confident that kid won't survive. Unfortunately, the Blood-Infant Ganoderma is also gone."

"We should leave. There are disciples from Mystical Talisman House, Blacknether Sect, Sky Serpent Sect are in Wild Beast Mountain, but there's no sign of their experts, something must have happened to them. We should first inquire about the situation before deciding our next move."

The young girl stood at the edge of the cliff for some time but in the end, she could only give up. Soon, everyone leaps onto the back of the Giant Flaming Falcon and left the cliff.

...

As he fell into the bottomless ravine, Du Shaofu is like someone who dropped from the seventh heavens. Sand and stones tumbled down along him as his body bumped and crashed against the wall of the cliff, created stones and pebbles on the way down.

By the time he reached the bottom of the ravine, his body seems fine it's like he did not receive much injury that he is able to stand up immediately. However, his face was flushed bright red, and even his eyes were red. His body felt like it was about to puff up.

If the young girl and her comrades were to see this scene, it would render them speechless with their eyeball popping out; unhurt although he jumped off a tall cliff, not even a tiny scratch.

"Ahh!"

An agonizing scream escaped Du Shaofu's throat; his body shivered as it inflates, enormous amount energy from inside his body wants to burst out.

"The energy inside the Blood-Infant Ganoderma is too overwhelming."

Du Shaofu knew the reason for this; directly swallowing a high-grade elixir which contained an enormous amount of energy leads to this – his body was on the verge of exploding. Under the excruciating pain, his body trembled violently.

"Fortifies the Golden Plumage[1]."

Gritting his teeth, Du Shaofu diverted the energy from the Blood-Infant

Ganoderma into his muscles and flesh, if not he will really die from blown into pieces. As he operates the Golden-winged Garuda's Physique Refining Law, Du Shaofu threw his body against the cliff wall over and over that his body grew numb from the pain.

"More!"

Enduring excruciating pain, Du Shaofu continued to crash into the hard wall without hesitation, like he is not a human being.

The self-torture continued till he no longer feels anything. Every time he crashed against the wall, strands of energy from the Blood-Infant absorbed into the muscles and flesh. And as time goes time, Du Shaofu could feel his physique grew stronger albeit slowly, accompanied by pain.

Below the ravine in a secluded spot, on top of a big boulder, there's a huge tiger. Its body is entirely covered in runic scales. And it observed the scene from away; its big round were eyes full of doubt.

"Ahh..."

Crashing against the hard rock wall countless times, Du Shaofu let out a painful scream; his was face distorted with pain. Fortunately, there's no one around to hear his screams in this bottomless ravine. Thus the painful screams continued together with the endless 'bang bang bang' noises of objects crashing against the wall fails to fall on anyone's ear.

Three nights and three days passed in the same manner before screams of pain from below the ravine gradually stops.

In the ravine, shattered gravels piled up high into a small hill, vast areas of large rocks had turned into dust and Du Shaofu lies exhausted upon a bed of pebbles with various bruises and bumps of red, purple and green discernable on his body. His body stretched to the limit devoid of even a single strand of energy.

"No, I can't fail here. There is still some elixir energy not yet absorb."

He struggled to get up and sat cross-legged on the bed of pebbles. Although the majority of the energy from the Blood-Infant Ganoderma was absorbed by his muscles and flesh, there are still abundant of energy left in his body.

Running the Golden-winged Garuda's exercise law, Du Shaofu converts the residual energy from the Blood-Infant Ganoderma into xuanqi, gathered it into his Shenque.

Atop the heap of loose pebbles, Du Shaofu's body was shrouded in a pale golden glow, xuanqi emitted from all over his body, circled incessantly before it drills into Du Shaofu's flesh. The cycle repeats itself, many times over.

Du Shaofu's meridians had always been stronger than others due to his many nights spent in the mysterious sarcophagus that hangs in the Du Clan's Ancestral Shrine.

Coupled with the Golden-winged Garuda's cultivation, his physique is so much stronger, comparable to a wicked beast. His meridians are wider and tougher, able to contain abundant of powerful xuanqi; even his Shenque is much larger than others.

He continued to convert the energy from the Blood-Infant Ganoderma, accumulating it in his Shenque. With all these energies inside, Du Shaofu's Shenque began to expand, not knowing how long has passed Du Shaofu's Shenque was already filled to the brim to the point of spilling over.

At this moment, abruptly Du Shaofu changed his handseal, and then the sound of something breaking rang out. An overbearing golden glow wraps around him entirely, gold-colored runes circled around him. Subsequently, all gathered and hovered behind him, and formed into a surreal Golden-winged Garuda.

Hidden above the ravine, on a big boulder, a Demon Scale Tiger fixed it's staring at the surreal image of the Golden-winged Garuda, its enormous body shivered, bowing down as it trembled in fear.

"Bang!"

A soft but clear sound came out from Du Shaofu's Shenque. At the same time, the surreal Golden-winged Garuda separated and reverted to runes, drilling into Du Shaofu's body. Gradually, the golden glow that wrapped around him dimmed, converged into him.

"Hu~!"

When things calmed down, Du Shaofu breathed out foul qi; opened his eyes to

reveal bright clear pupils with traces of gold deep within that added a domineering atmosphere to his gaze.

“Mysterious layer Xiantian.”

Sensing the changes inside his body, a smile bloomed on his face. The prior exhaustion and dullness disappeared replaced with a refreshing feeling, full of vitality. Unexpectedly, he was able to breakthrough to mysterious layer Xiantian from an early Xiantian from this incident.

All of a sudden, Du Shaofu sensed something; he quickly stood up from his sitting position and looked up warily.

“Roar!”

A thunderous roar came from a big boulder above, a thirty meters long huge tiger flew down, flapping its broad wings, causing the pebbles on the ground to roll away, and the air swirled fiercely like a tornado.

“Demon Scales Tiger.”

Shock flitted across Du Shaofu’s pupils; this huge flying tiger is the same one that tried to grab the Blood-Infant Ganoderma from him a few days ago. The one which was capable of oppressing all the Wicked beasts at that time. He didn’t expect that this Demon Scale Tiger to appear here at this time.

“Roar!”

The Demon Scale Tiger’s massive body landed in front of Du Shaofu, and under Du Shaofu’s shocked expression, it lied down on the ground. When it lifted its head, its large lantern-like eyes looked at Du Shaofu in a docile manner devoid of its previous ferociousness. In the end, it whimpered softly as if trying to say something.

Du Shaofu sensed no danger from the Demon Scale Tiger. Its big eyes looked at him as if appealing him to accept its submission; to be its master.

“You want to follow me?” Repressing the shock in his heart, Du Shaofu tried to probe the Demon Scale Tiger’s intention.

“Roar!”

The Demon Scale Tiger roared softly and nodded his head; like it was able to

understand Du Shaofu's words.

“You can understand what I’m saying?”

Du Shaofu was astounded. This Demon Scale Tiger obviously had reached Mai-ling level. It was rumored that King level Wicked Beasts that has reached Mai-ling level are able to understand human language, and Wicked beast of higher cultivation could even speak human words.

Du Shaofu heard of a myth that said once Wicked beasts’ cultivation reached a certain level, it can transform into a human figure, but this kind of terrifying Wicked beasts only exists in myths and legends.

“Roar!”

Once again the Demon Scale Tiger nodded its head, its eyes look at Du Shaofu in awe, its manner docile and submissive.

“That means you have already reached Mai-ling level?”

Once the shock passed Du Shaofu became excited. This Demon Scale Tiger really can communicate with humans, and a Wicked beast that can interact with humans must at least be a Mai-ling level. A Mai-ling level wicked beast is stronger compared to a Mai-ling level human warrior. No matter how much one search in Stone City, they would be able to find one. To most warriors, the Mai-ling level is an elusive dream.

“Roar!”

The Demon Scale Tiger nodded its head a third time, acknowledging that it is a Mai-ling level cultivator.

“Gu~ Gu!”

Du Shaofu swallowed nervously. A Mai-Ling level Wicked Beast King suddenly appeared in front of him, wanted to submit to him; could it be his awesome personality that attracted the Demon Scale Tiger...

Note:

1. Fortifies Golden Plumages ref. C32; the first stage of Physique Refining Law

Chapter 38: Coming Across Injustice on the Road

This Demon Scale Tiger's willingness to submit to him must be due to his awesomeness and might, it could tell that he is of a unique mold.

As Du Shaofu's line of thought continued in this direction, the more shameless he became; confident that it must be his exceptional temperament that attracted the Demon Scale Tiger. The more he thought about it, the higher the pedestal he built for himself.

He looked at the Demon Scale Tiger's enormous body close to the size of a small hill; Du Shaofu's sighed and said, "It's not a problem if you want to submit to me, it's just that your body is a little too big. If I bring you back to Stone City looking like this, it will only attract troubles."

"Roar!"

It seemed like the Demon Scale Tiger understood Du Shaofu's meaning thus its mouth issued a low growl. Then, as it flapped its huge wings, its enormous body began to shrink mysteriously; even its wings seemed to disappear. Finally, it stopped when became as large as a kitten. The runic scale on its forehead became a tiny dot and underneath it, faintly discernable seemed to be a small bump that is hard to notice if one does not look for it.

"A transformation skill, you actually know a transformation skill! It seems you are not an ordinary wicked beast."

Du Shaofu was in shock. He naturally had heard that some wicked beasts possessed supernatural ability. Once they have grown, even top experts of the human race couldn't rival.

“Wa ha ha ha ha, I’ve made a fortune this time!”

Looking at the reduced-size Demon Scale Tiger in front of him, felt the brimming xuanqi inside his body, the corner of Du Shaofu’s lips lifted into a smile. Slowly the smile became bigger and bigger, in the end, he burst out in a loud complacent laugh.

...

In the Wild Beast Mountains, there are numerous peaks within the mountain range; some areas of the forest are obscured by fogs all year round.

“Bang!” “Bang!” “Bang!”

Sounds of energies colliding resounded from a certain valley; dozens of people were in intense battles and amongst them are Zhu Xue, Guo Ming, Shen Yan, Lin Boguang, and Lu Kun. Silhouettes shrouded by xuanqi crashed into each other.

In the valley, colorful xuanqi burst out in rapid sporadically; as runes swirled an endless blasts rang out as opposing xuanqi collided, even dried leaves and rocks on the ground turned into dust.

Zhu Xue, Guo Ming, and Lin Boguang were fighting three to one against a tall skinny man. However, the skinny man had no difficulty fighting against three people alone, and he dealt with the three of them easily. His long chicken feet like skinny hands wrapped in xuanqi clawed out crushing Guo Ming’s attacks, shredded Zhu Xue’s palmprints into pieces, and deflected all of Lin Boguang’s attack.

The Skinny Man released his aura oppressing Zhu Xue, Guo Ming, and Lin Boguang that they find it hard to breathe.

Shen Yan and Lu Kun were fighting close by, their similar strength made it difficult to determine the winner in a short time.

Blacknether Sect’s Wang Yuan and the remaining disciples of the Blacknether Sect, and Mystical Talisman House battled against the Sky Serpent Sect’s disciples and the beast hunters from White Panther Hunting Group. As the battle continued, more people are wounded.

“Just the three of you are not enough against me.”

The Skinny Man sneered; claw prints once again pushed Zhu Xue and Guo Ming back. His brutal attacks already injured Guo Ming's left arm, a long deep scratch run along the length of his arm as blood ran down his arm.

"Bastard! Is an atyanta level Xiantian so great? Dare to touch the woman I fancy, I'll not let this slide."

Lin Boguang yelled loudly, his hands condensed seals and runes converged into a fist print, punched across space aimed at the Skinny man, bringing with it an overwhelming and powerful atmosphere.

A feeling of unease flashed across the Skinny Man's eyes looking at the fist; although this young man is only a paramita layer Xiantian but his strength made him a little wary. Without a doubt these are the disciples of prominent sects, even the young ones have such terrifying strength and cultivation.

The Skinny man's expression turned sullen. Although he was a little wary, when the fist was about to hit him, his years of experience in Wild Beast Mountains was displayed. A foot tapped lightly on the ground and his body floated backward gently, just like a falling leaf. And at the same time, a sharp claw condensed out of xuanqi clawed down on Lin Boguang's fist-print.

"Ka cha!"

The moment the claw slashed down, instantly the fist and the claw collided.

"Nethersun Sword!"

Lin Boguang bellowed as a huge sword mysteriously appeared in his hands, imbued with xuanqi. His arms swung and the huge sword cuts down at the Skinny Man with lightning speed, sharp and ruthless.

The Skinny Man panicked. The young man in front of him is much stronger than he had anticipated; his foot quickly tapped on the ground speedily retreated. While he retreated, his weren't idle, at the same time condensed a claw-print and slammed down on the sword, barely blocking the sword attack.

"Chi la la la."

Everything happened in just a few breath's time when the Skinny Man retreated to safe spot; there was a deep cut on his palm, blood dripping from it.

The claw-print was cut in two by the sword.

“Sure enough, there’s some ability.”

The Skinny Man raised the bloody palm to his mouth; his tongue licked at the dripping blood. A trace of coldness flashed across his pupils, his hands condensed handseals rapidly, and in less than a dozen breath’s time, he pounced on Lin Boguang emitting a strong xuanqi fluctuation.

“Tiger Roar Jolts the Heavens!”

At the same time Skinny Tiger pounced on Lin Boguang, he hollered a deafening roar like an angry thunder which shook the entire valley.

“Roar!”

The loud tiger-like roar resounded throughout the valley, and the sound waves turned into a violent whirlpool and swept Lin Boguang away.

Lin Boguang swung the huge sword in his hand, rays of sword light slashed at the sound wave whirlpool but to no avail. The vibrations became faster and faster caused sharp pain in the ears; sand and stones swirled off the ground.

“Puchi!”

After staggered backward ten steps, blood flowed out from the corner of Lin Boguang’s mouth and his expression turned somber.

“Talisman transform, KILL!”

Zhu Xue took the chance to sneak behind the Skinny Man, a piercing sharpness flitted across her eyes, her hands condensed mysterious seals, and an unusual strong fluctuation rotated around her body as strange runes spread out and gathered together transforming into a life-like goshawk.

“Ji~!”

The goshawk issued a sharp cry, flapped its meters long wings created small tornado-like energy, crashed into the Skinny Man.

“You’re actually a Spirit Talisman Master, pity; just an early Two Star level is insignificant!”

The Skinny Man was surprised; with a wave of his hand, a whip-like xuanqi

appeared, runes circled floats around the whip as it lashed straight at the life-like goshawk like a beam of light.

“Bang!”

The surreal body of the goshawk quavered and shattered into tiny dust-sized glitter, and an explosion of energy shook the air.

Zhu Xue silhouette shuddered. Her body uncontrollably swayed a few steps back; her face turned deadly pale.

“Jie jie, so what if Blacknether Sect and Mystical Talisman House and giant existence, kids that have yet to wean from a mother’s milk[1] dares to trespass into Wild Beast Mountains. This is the end, the things on your bodies are all mine.”

The Skinny Man lets out a cold smirk, so what if Blacknether Sect and Mystical Talisman House are prominent sects, this is the Wild Beast Mountains; a tiny remote border town at the edge of a country, as long as he gets this bunch of greenhorn’s valuable items, he will be set for life. Change his name and hide away. At that time, doesn’t matter how powerful Blacknether Sect or Mystical Talisman House is, they can’t find him.

“Chi!”

At exactly the same moment Zhu Xue was swaying on her feet the Skinny Man state his part; in the blink of an eye, he reached Zhu Xue. His fingers clawed out grasped at Zhu Xue’s delicate neck.

Guo Ming and Lin Boguang’s expression changed drastically when they saw this scene. But they were at the end of their limit; they have neither the strenght nor the way to rescue Zhu Xue. They could do nothing except to close their eyes and not watch.

“Chi!”

The ferocious claws slowly enlarge in Zhu Xue’s pupils as it closes in; when Guo Ming and Lin Boguang despaired at the thought that there’s no chance Zhu Xue would survive, suddenly a pale golden streak of light arrived accompanied by a wind whistling sound come out of nowhere crashed straight into those skinny hand.

“Chi la~!”

The pale golden light carried an overbearing atmosphere that the Skinny Man’s body flew back from the impact.

A young man roughly fifteen to sixteen-year-old stood shielded Zhu Xue. On that youthful face, there are a hint of resolution and determination that most peer his age lack; with thick broad brows and bright clear eyes.

This unexpected scene rendered everyone speechless, mouth wide open. Zhu Xue was shocked for a moment when she saw the broad back when her eyes opened. Shock turned into surprise.

“Brother Shaofu!”

Guo Ming called out with enthusiasm seeing who the young man was, wild joy spread across his face. The young man that appeared is still wearing his clothes, who will it be other than Du Shaofu.

Du Shaofu’s sudden appearance attracted much attention. This young man’s overbearing actions at Spirit Gorge, oppressed all beings and passed unhindered in the midst of ferocious beasts to snatch away the Blood-Infant Ganoderma. His actions caused great waves in the minds of all present.

“Brat, it’s you!”

When the Tall Skinny Man recovered, he immediately recognized this young man from the description Lu Kun gave. The one who killed Second Bro and Third Bro; instantly, killing intent surged in his eyes.

“You must be Skinny Tiger, seems like you were searching for me everywhere?”

Du Shaofu smiled; the brows on his bright clear eyes moved as he maintain a calm manner, but it was exactly this relaxed attitude that increased Skinny Tiger’s wariness against Du Shaofu.

“That’s right, I was looking for you. You can play tricks in front of those wicked beasts, but in front of me, you can go straight to hell!”

Skinny Tiger smiled sinisterly as Du Shaofu. He was searching for this kid, the killer of his brothers and the Blood-Infant Ganoderma is with him. A powerful aura burst forth from his lanky silhouette; his foot stamped on the ground, akin

to a fierce tiger descending the mountains. Both of his hands waved, and two paws similar to a tiger's clawed out shredding cross space and with a sharp wind piercing sound arrived before Du Shaofu. The strong aura coming from the Skinny Man could suppress even space for he used all his might wanting to kill Du Shaofu in one hit.

Chapter 39: Universal Storage Pouch

“An atyanta level Xiantian’s strength is really not weak ah.”

Du Shaofu watched as Skinny Tiger pounced at him like a mighty tiger descending the hills; a weird expression surfaced on his face. With no intention to avoid or dodge, his hands formed seals, and from his body dazzling pale golden light shined brightly, runes rotated in rapid speed and an overbearing aura erupted from his body like an angry volcano. His right hand slapped hard at Skinny Tiger who was lurched at him.

Hu la~ la~!

As his palm strike out, the aligned golden replicated a surreal shadow of a giant golden wing, mercilessly strike onto Skinny Tiger’s body. Neither one avoided for this is a direct head-on collision sans any fancy tricks.

Bang! Bang!

In the collision, the surreal gigantic golden wing exuded a domineering atmosphere that holds unparalleled power just like lava bursting out from a volcano.

The force of the collision repelled Du Shaofu and he staggered back two steps before he managed to steady himself. A tiny smile appeared on his face, just as he had expected; after he swallowed the Blood-Infant Ganoderma and the torturous physical training his physique became much more powerful. On top of that, his strength also increased exponentially after he breaks through to mysterious layer Xiantian. Previously, just depending on his body and his own strength he managed almost draw with the Skinny Man. The Golden-winged Garuda’s exercise law is truly domineering and terrifying.

Deng! Deng!

Skinny Tiger frowned deeply as his body stumbled several times, the force of his feet stamped on the ground were enough to crack it. When he finally regained his balance, he raised his head to look at Du Shaofu: “How could a mysterious layer Xiantian be so powerful!”

Puchi!

Blood spurted from Skinny Tiger’s mouth while he was talking, being aggravated thus worsened his injury, confusion written all over his face.

“I did not mess with you and yet you continuously attempted to kill me, let’s settle our debts clearly today!”

Du Shaofu’s feet stamped on the ground, this time he took the initiative to attack. He dashed forward with great velocity just like a Garuda flapping its wings, a hunting goshawk instantly arriving in front of Skinny Tiger. Xuanqi swirled between his palm, five fingers clenched into a fist, and a terrifying breath erupted from Du Shaofu. The fist punched out directly at Skinny Tiger.

Dread took over Skinny Tiger’s face, from the exchange earlier, this young man before him gave him the impression of facing a dangerous wicked beast, powerful and tyrannical; an unknown species of Wicked Beast King. His soul trembled, and at this moment the young man’s speed had already exceeded his imagination.

Unable to avoid or even dodge, Skinny Tiger’s xuanqi rippled and the two fists collided.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

A salvo of blast echoed in the air from the impact, one after another blast continued to echo, if one were to count, there’s a total of thirteen blasts. A total of thirteen layers of raging wind, thirteen levels of multiplied force crashed onto Skinny Tiger’s fist.

Ka cha!

The sound of breaking bone came from Skinny Tiger’s hand, his face turned liver-red from the excruciating pain that his face seemed distorted. His entire fist was gone, non-existent; but the tyrannical energy entered his body as if it wanted to grind his internal organs into dust.

“From now on, White Panther Hunting Group’s name is removed from Wild Beast Mountains!”

Du Shaofu once again appeared in front of Skinny Tiger quicker than lightning, golden lights flickered around him. His palmprint crashed like raging waves against Skinny Tiger’s chest from the overwhelming energy that burst forth.

Skinny Tiger’s pupils shrink; he realized the horror that is the young man before him at this very moment, more horrifying than the youngsters from those forces like the Blacknether Sect or Mystical Talisman House. If only he knew earlier, how would he dare to provoke this young man?

Puchi!

More blood flowed from the corner of Skinny Tiger’s mouth. His ribs broke, shattered, and even his internal organs were crush into pieces from the massive impact. His body inverted out and when it fell to the ground, there are no longer any signs of life.

An atyanta layer Xiantian warrior was killed just like that, quick, overwhelming and straightforward. And that irresistible terrifying oppressive aura!

The nearby Guo Ming and Lin Boguang were stunned speechless from the beginning. Witnessed to the whole process with their own eyes, the degree of shock they experienced are greater than imagined.

However, when Lu Kun and the White Panther Hunting Group saw this, their expression became hideous. They never thought Skinny Tiger would end up dead being an atyanta layer Xiantian moreover he was actually killed by a young man. The shadow of faint smile appeared on Du Shaofu’s face; clenches his fists, unexpectedly mysterious layer are so much stronger then he was an early Xiantian. The Blood-Infant Ganoderma increased his body’s toughness to such an extent. Without his physical toughness, killing Skinny Tiger would be much more difficult. The tyrannical and overbearing atmosphere is due to the toughness of his physique, spurned everything under the sun.

“Big Chief’s dead, quick flee!”

Beast hunters from the White Panther Hunting Group fled away in panic, not daring to linger a moment longer.

Roar!

A tiger's roars that can shake the heavens resounded and Demonic Scale Tiger appeared roaring thunderously. Two beast hunters of early Xiantian cultivation who ran the fastest died under the claws of the huge tiger, shredded into pieces, blood soaked the ground; putting fear into human hearts.

"Is that Demonic Scale Tiger."

Fear apparent in everyone's eyes, their bodies trembled. Its wings spread over sixty meters wide hovering in the air as if appraising the humans below; it's terrifying atmosphere affected Lin Boguang, Zhu Xue, Guo Ming and the rest of the disciples.

The Demonic Scales Tiger turned around went away after it killed two people from White Panther Hunting Group, it not attacking anyone else baffled everyone present.

"Run ah."

The rest of White Panther Hunting Group who was shivering in their pants once again tried to escape when they saw the Demonic Scale Tiger went away.

Squatted down next to Skinny Tiger's corpse, Du Shaofu's hand searched around for valuables, and he finally found a palm-sized pouch from his bosom, covered in dense runes.

"That is his Universal Storage Pouch. Everything he owns should be stored inside this storage pouch." Zhu Xue walked up to Du Shaofu, her eyes contained traces of shock from earlier.

Du Shaofu smiled. He heard from somewhere only a Spirit Talisman Master is able to refine storage pouch. A tiny little pouch after engraved with runes by a Spirit Talisman Master could shrink part of space between heaven and earth into a small pouch. The more powerful the Spirit Talisman Master the bigger the space within the pouch and the more things one can store inside.

Without question, Du Shaofu bluntly placed the storage pouch in his bosom, a storage pouch itself is a treasure, not something ordinary folks can afford. Furthermore, it's not in Du Shaofu's nature to 'discard' things. After he kept the storage pouch somewhere safe, he stood up.

“Thank you for saving me.” Zhu Xue’s pearly white teeth showed as her cherry lips arched in a smile, a trace of strange light flitted across her pupils.

“Coincidence.”

Du Shaofu nodded his head. Due to the Demon Scale Tiger he was able to leave that deep ravine easily, and unexpectedly he ran into Zhu Xue a second time. The White Panther Hunting Group is a matter he needed to resolve thus at that critical moment, he naturally interfered.

“Brother Shaofu.” Guo Ming ran over happily towards Du Shaofu, and said, “You saved us once again.”

“Just a helping hand, are you alright?” Du Shaofu smiled lightly and asked. The injury on Guo Ming’s arm looked severe.

Guo Ming shook his head and glanced at his injury from the corner of his eye indifferently. “Small matter, nothing serious. Swallow some pills and spend a few days healing, and it’ll be fine.”

“It’s you, so you are called Du Shaofu. Thanks for helping just now; I’m Lin Boguang, a disciple of Blacknether Sect.”

Lin Boguang said as he came beside Du Shaofu. He had seen Du Shaofu before once and once again at Spirit Gorge. The strength shown by Du Shaofu just now had once again shocked him greatly. He is a person that didn’t even bother with Shen Yan, however, this time he took the initiative to greet Du Shaofu, and this alone was enough to prove Du Shaofu’s standing in his eyes.

“I helped because of familiar faces, in addition I have my own grudge with them. I did not specifically interfere because of you, so it’s not necessary for you to thank me.” Du Shaofu said to Lin Boguang.

“It’s okay, I’m thanking you for helping Junior Sister Zhu Xue, as for me, that Skinny Tiger can’t kill me, why should I thank you.”

Listening to Du Shaofu’s words, Lin Boguang nonchalantly glanced at Zhu Xue, seeing the way she looks at Du Shaofu, he said, “Don’t assume just because your strength is higher than mine you can wrestle away Junior Sister Zhu Xue from my hands. Whoever wants to grab Junior Sister Zhu Xue from me, I will fight to the death with them.”

Du Shaofu looked at Lin Boguang feeling somewhat speechless, in the end, he laughed helplessly.

“Lin Boguang, I am not your junior sister and is not related to you in any way. If you spout any more nonsense I’ll not be polite.”

Zhu Xue’s clear brown eyes reveal a hint of iciness. She almost stamped her foot in anger, how could this Lin Boguang say something like that about her, there’s not even a dot of relation between them. Unconsciously she became worried about how the young man will view her. Water seemed to reflect in her eyes as she looks at the young man.

When Lin Boguang heard this, he didn’t get angry. He smiled lightly at Zhu Xue and said, “Junior Sister Zhu, don’t be angry. I’ll listen to you and not say anymore.”

“You!!!”

After Zhu Xue yelled at Lin Boguang, she lowered her eyes and pursed her lips bowed slightly, not saying a word. She does not wish to bicker with Lin Boguang. The more she reacts to him, the harder it will be to make things clear.

“Brother Du Shaofu, thank you for your assistance. That Lu Kun is the same as the White Panther Hunting Group. These Sky Serpent Sect disciples are really too hateful.”

After a brief hesitation, Shen Yan stepped beside Du Shaofu. He fought Lu Kun with no outcome and looking at Lu Kun from where he stood; his eyes brimmed with bitter hatred, but he is unable to deal with Lu Kun.

“And what does that has got to do with me.” Du Shaofu didn’t even look at Shen Yan directly.

Note:

Universal Storage Pouch will be refer to as storage pouch.

Chapter 40: Can't Open the Storage Pouch!

After he threw that sentence to Shen Yan, Du Shaofu looked at Guo Ming and Zhu Xue. "I'm leaving. Wild Beast Mountains is very dangerous, better leave quickly."

Leaving that sentence Du Shaofu turned around and left.

"Shao..."

Cherry lips slightly parted as if wanted to say something due to hesitation, in the end, no words came out. Her eyebrows dropped looking a little dejected, the feeling of loss apparent in her eyes.

"Kid, what do you think you are! If you ever fall into my hands in the future..." Shen Yan stared angrily at the straight tall back, dissatisfied and there's a cold gleamed in his eyes. That kid actually dared to brush him off, if and when there's an opportunity later to teach him a lesson, it mustn't be missed.

"Go..."

Lu Kun's expression was unbearably grim. Those from White Panther Hunting Group either died or fled. He and his brothers can't deal with both Blacknether Sect and Mystical Talisman House at the same time. Thus he immediately signaled the disciples to leave.

"Where are you going, chase after them quickly," Seeing this Shen Yan hollered, there are treasure on Lu Kun too.

"Lu Kun's very strong, and most of us are injured. Even if we want to deal with that guy we must heal first. Moreover, even though we are in the outer edge of Wild Beast Mountains, however, recently there have been too many high-level Wicked Beasts roaming around, we should be more careful."

Lin Boguang had no intention to chase at all, although they have more people but still not enough to guarantee to do harm to Lu Kun. Not only that, he had no desire to be used as a tool by others.

“We should look for a safe place to heal our injuries; we can avenge our brothers in the future.”

Zhu Xue said in a clear voice. She, Guo Ming, and most of the disciples, some of the injuries are severe. Especially they are currently in Wild Beast Mountains; it is not the best time to deal with Lu Kun. Anyway, the Lu Kun now can't bring them any more harm.

“There'll be a day, where I absolutely will not let him go.” Guo Ming said through gritted teeth, this time he can only give up.

Since everyone has no intention to pursue, Shen Yan relented. He alone is incapable to handle Lu Kun. Shen Yan's heart longed for the Golden-winged Garuda and the Demonic Purpleflame Phoenix's feather picked up by Lu Kun. Both are an immeasurable treasure.

The mountain peaks elegantly link like a path into the vast horizon.

At a corner of the forest upon a massive boulder, there's a Demonic Scales Tiger the size of a kitten next to Du Shaofu, and he's not in the least worried some wicked beats will sneak up on him or other dangers.

Taking out the storage pouch he got from Skinny Tiger's body, Du Shaofu checked it carefully. He heard about storage pouch, in the entire Du Clan, only Eldest Uncle and Second Uncle each has one. The cheapest for one of this storage pouches cost a hefty several thousand xuanbi, clearly proved how expensive it is. Definitely not something ordinary folks could afford on a whim.

“How to open this thing?”

After he had fiddled with the pouch for half a day, Du Shaofu encountered a difficult problem. This storage bag is sealed, and he doesn't know how to open it, which depressed him. As the head of the White Panther Hunting Group, surely there will be a lot of good things on him, and probably it even contains martial skills and elixirs. But, pity this storage cannot be open, and he had no idea at all.

“Little Brother, you won't be able to open this storage bag, an expert also

won't be able to open it. If you open it by force, the things inside will be destroyed."

Suddenly a voice sounded in Du Shaofu's ears, Du ShaoFu's eyes widened in surprise, instantly retreated a few steps back, his eyes looked towards his chest as his body shivered slightly.

The Demon Scale Tiger beside Du Shaofu also perked up its ears, its eyes squinted as it fixed its stare at Du Shaofu's chest.

One human and one beast's eyes introspectively stared at the chest area where a thumb-sized little tower floats out from his bosom; the very same little tower Du Shaofu took from Du Clan's Martial Collection Building. Not too long ago, his clothes, the Violent Stone Demon Wolf's blood essence, and the base-building dans turned to ashes from the purple-colored flame, only this little tower and a strange animal bone managed to survive.

While the little tower was floating out, rays of brilliant light shined from the little tower, and vague runes flickered and space around rippled with unusual fluctuations. Rolling smoke gushed out from the little tower, finally condensed into a transparent image of a youth.

This see-through youth looked about twelve to thirteen years old, very thin judging by the silhouette of the image. Extremely thin. Super thin. Basically, he's just skin wrapped over bones, with sunken cheeks, and his eyebrow is an inverted eight (八\) character, and triangle shaped eyes on a wretched looking face.

A twelve, thirteen-year-old youth with an immature but wretched face; the more people look at him the more uncomfortable they will be. It truly makes a person wonder how could there be such a face in the world. The only words to describe the transparent youth would be 'extremely wretched' to truly capture the entirety of the surreal youth in front.

"Hello Little Brother, can I get to know you?"

The wretched see-through youth smiled and floated gently before Du Shaofu. If would have been better if he didn't smile, the moment he smiled his wretched face look worse than crying. The small triangle shaped eyes weren't balanced and coordinated in the first place, now the small eyes are lost somewhere in his

face, if babies or small kids were to see this wretched face, their first reaction is to cry.

And this youth actually called Du Shaofu little brother when he look just little past ten.

“What do you want to do; don’t come over.”

This transparent youth is really too wretched looking that Du Shaofu couldn’t resist and retreated a few steps, thinking, surely this guy in front wouldn’t have special interests, would he? If the wretched youth dare to make a move on him, he will castrate him! But, it suddenly crossed his mind that he is stronger than the youth in front. Thus he puffed up his chest and felt braver. “Who are you, how did you appear from the little tower?”

“Little Brother, you don’t need to be afraid. Allow me to introduce myself. My family name is Zhen, my name is Qingchun.”

The wretched looking youth introduced himself like a ‘great elder’ with a scholarly tone, but it couldn’t disguise the child-like voice.

“Really(Zhen) pure (Qingchun)?” Du Shaofu observed the wretched looking youth, as if unable to figure out why would there be such a name?

“It’s the distinguish (Zhen), and Qingchun is the fragrance from alcohol; not the Qingchun as in Qingchun (pure).”

When Zhen Qingchun was shaking his and explaining, the more his ‘great elder’ like trait came out, however, that juvenile face really makes him feel awkward.

Roar!

The Demon Scale Tiger growled at Zhen Qingchun but it too was a little frightened for as its kitten-sized body reverted to its original enormity. Its hill-sized body focused solely on Zhen Qingchun, low growls coming from its mouth.

“A Mai-ling level Demon Scale Tiger? Eii, seems like a variation with signs of ancestors genes[1]. Good, good, useful if trained well.” Zhen Qingchun was surprised seeing the Demon Scale Tiger, but then he simply waved his hand. “Just an early Mai-ling level, if it was before. you don’t even have the qualification to become my mount. Quickly stand down.”

Roar!

The Demon Scale Tiger ignored Zhen Qingchun's words, growled at Zhen Qingchun however in its eyes are traces of fear.

"Why were you in that little tower?"

Du Shaofu calmed down as he moved to the front of the Demon Scale Tiger, signaled it to be quiet, but his eyes remained vigilant.

"This tower is not an ordinary item and I'm not an ordinary person."

Zhen Qingchun's eyes flickered unnoticeably when he looked at Du Shaofu. "Let's put it this way, my identity is very distinguished and have an exceptional origin. As you can see, I'm a spirit body that's proof of my cultivation. Due to a mishap during practice that my spirit entered the little tower...'

"You really are a strong expert with an exceptional background?"

Du Shaofu interrupted Zhen Qingchun's explanation. His eyes roamed curiously over the transparent wretched figure of a youth. He knows very little regarding spirit body, only those legendary strong experts could condense a spirit body which is the same to having an extra life, however, the know-how to this method are unattainable to ordinary warriors.

"Of course I'm a strong expert, I have extraordinary bearing!" Zhen Qingchun nodded his head enthusiastically, exclaimed with a very loud voice.

"But you look like a snot-nosed kid."

"This..."

Zhen Qingchun was at a loss for words. His inverted triangle brows scrunched together, and he looked at Du Shaofu, and said, "That's because of the accident that happened during my practice, frankly, I'm several hundred years old. Once I've healed, my looks will restore."

"Then, do you have Heaven rank exercise law?" Du Shaofu raised an eyebrow, asked Zhen Qingchun.

When Zhen Qingchun heard this, his transparent face deflated. Then, he showed the smile that would frighten a little kid to tears at Du Shaofu. "About this, I do have it; but since I'm away from home, I don't have it on me ah."

“Did you bring any high-grade martial skills? Some high-grade elixirs or dans also can.” Du Shaofu looked expectantly at Zhen Qingchun, anticipating his answer.

“This... I also didn’t bring any.”

The smile Zhen Qingchun squeezed out with much effort stiffened on his face. The direction of this conversation differed greatly from what he imagined. In his imagination, once he revealed himself and this little brat sees him, he will immediately beg him to take him as his disciple, and at that time... But, the little brat in front of him simply do not follow the script he wrote; only knew how to ask for benefits and not in the slightest interested in him, which caused him to feel depressed.

Note:

Ancestor gene – early primordial genes

Chapter 41: Pitiful Zhen Qingchun

“Then, what did you come out for?”

Du Shaofu stealthily observed this self-proclaimed Zhen Qingchun spirit body. Disappointment flickered across Du Shaofu’s eyes. This transparent floating thing claimed to have an extraordinary background and is a strong expert at that but can’t even take out something good. This type of person definitely is a swindler.

“Because you’re in luck.”

Zhen Qingchun looked at Du Shaofu with an amiable smile, however, this smile only cement his wretchedness further. “I can tell that you only have second or maybe third grade martial pulse, right? This grade martial pulse to advance in higher cultivation, tsk tsk.....’

Halfway, Zhen Qingchun intentionally paused, revealing a regretful face before he continued. “But you don’t have to worry or feel inferior. I’ll be your redeemer; under my guidance, even with a second grade martial pulse you still can be strong, and let your cultivation soar. With my help, you’ll definitely be famous...”

“What do I have to do for you in exchange?”

Once again Du Shaofu interrupted Zhen Qingchun’s words knowing there’s no such thing as free lunch in this world. No stranger would be willing to assist you to do so many things for free, not matter how nice the words sounded. To fawn on another without purpose is not the way of the corrupt, when Du Shaofu thought of this sentence, he looked at Zhen Qingchun. Du Shaofu inched slowly towards a certain spot.

Swindler! This wretched looking guy is definitely a swindler! Du Shaofu thinks to himself. As for his martial pulse grade, he is not worried at all for he practiced

the Golden-winged Garuda's exercise law.

"That's easy, easy."

Zhen Qingchun smiled exuberantly, that wretched face looked like a chrysanthemum in bloom, said, "Due to a mishap in my practice, my spirit body needs to recuperate, that's why I need some of your xuanqi and"

"You want my xuanqi?"

Du Shaofu went blanked, then grimly stared at Zhen Qingchun. The bright eyes under his thick brows became complicated.

"Yes, your xuanqi and ..."

Huulaa!

Zhen Qingchun has yet to finish his words a fist zoomed right at his transparent body, shattering it into pieces.

"Kid, what are you doing?!"

The surreal transparent body shattered and turned into a puff of smoke, it entered the little tower, and a voice roared out from it: "Kid, how dare you attack me; you have brought a calamity upon yourself!"

"Truly a swindler, dare to tempt me!"

Du Shaofu grabbed the floating little tower and smashed it to the ground while cursing at it: "Dare to covet my xuanqi! This young master survived a catastrophe and through hard work managed to cultivate xuanqi; you dared to come and swindle my xuanqi!"

As someone who used to have broken veins, xuanqi is something he had labored for, xuanqi is like his lifeline and yet the moment this Zhen Qingchun opened his mouth, this Zhen Qingchun wanted his xuanqi and that touched Du Shaofu's bottom line.

When he abruptly attacked, there was some caution inside Du Shaofu's heart but when he saw how vulnerable and cowardice Zhen Qingchun is, cowering inside the little tower he was relieved. The moment Zhen Qingchun wanted his xuanqi, he proved Du Shaofu's opinion about him; an absolute swindler!

Du Shaofu vented. He picked up the little tower from the ground and smashed it down again. “Strong expert? Exceptional origins? I’ll smash this thing into pieces, let’s see how you hide then.”

“Actually dared to trick me, did you catch yourself a longevity god that you’re looking for death!”

“Actually want my xuanqi, how dare you request for it ah.”

“Come out!”

Du Shaofu threw the little tower down a few times but the little tower was undamaged, extremely solid.

“Kid, you’ll definitely regret disrespecting me~.’

From the little tower, Zhen Qingchun’s outraged voice transmitted out. Everything deviated from what he had imagined and he can’t figure out why? He had been ‘sleeping’ in the little tower and waited for the right time before making an appearance.

“This vile thing!”

He tried various methods to break the little tower even smashed it with a hard rock but the little tower remained intact without any scratches.

Zhen Qingchun hid inside the little tower not coming out but he heckled endlessly from inside the little tower and Du Shaofu was unable to do anything about it.

“Just give up kid, this is not something common, neither fire nor water can destroy it. With your measly strength even in your next life, you won’t be able to open it.”

From within the little tower, Zhen Qingchun’s bragging voice came out, then harshly said: “Once I’ve recovered, definitely will not let you go.”

“You really think that I can’t do anything if you’re not coming out then you don’t have to come out ever again. Regardless of your spirit body, you’re just an evil object.”

Suddenly, Du Shaofu laughed and moments later a stream of warm liquid flowed onto the little tower.

“Shameless brat, this treasure enough to cause countless strong experts to compete and die for it a. How dare you treat me this way, I definitely will not let you go!” Zhen Qingchun’s furious roar rang out but he was scared to go out.

.....

Dusk, sunset glowed from the west atop mountains peaks through clusters of cloud. The peaks wove through the forest like layers of waves, endless towards the horizon.

In a remote valley that’s quiet and cold.

Sou!

Within the valley, a young girl in a tangerine-red dress shuttled through the valley, red blood lined the corner of her mouth and from time to time she would turn back to look with a solemn expression.

“What a coincidence.”

A voice suddenly said, and a young man appeared with a smile on his face before the young girl.

The young girl’s body stiffened when she saw the young man in front of her. Shocked took over her pale white face as if she’s seen a ghost: “You... you’re not dead?”

The former’s the person who wanted to grab Du Shaofu’s Blood-Infant Ganoderma. She thought the young man had surely died jumping off the cliff but she was greatly astounded that the same young man is standing in front of her, alive.

“Thank my lucky stars that I don’t die easily.”

And the latter is, of course, Du Shaofu. He didn’t expect that he’ll meet the young girl once again, alone without the rest of the people that was on the Giant Flaming Falcon. Looking at the young girl, he said: “Because I did not die that you have troubles.”

“You are not my opponent.”

Looking at Du Shaofu’s malicious smile, the young girl frown unnoticeably, acted calm.

“I’m aware that you’re very strong, but...”

The girl indeed is very strong, however, the circumstances are different now and he doesn’t believe this girl is stronger than the Demon Scales Tiger; with a smile, he said: “Look behind you...”

When she heard this she looked back half believed Du Shaofu’s words, suddenly her expression changed and her face went deadly pale.

Roar!

The mass of the Demon Scale Tiger akin to a small hill jumped into her line of sight, with a thunderous roar its ferociousness displayed on full scale.

“You brought the Demon Scale Tiger here!”

The young girl’s face paled. Glanced at Du Shaofu and the Demon Scale Tiger, from his reaction it was obvious he was the one who brought the Demon Scale Tiger here, and she hasn’t forgotten that she wanted to grab this young man’s high-grade elixir.

“I said if you want to grab my Blood-Infant Ganoderma, I will bring you back to be my maid.”

Du Shaofu laughed this woman actually knows how to be scared, possessing a weak side. However, not settling a grudge is not a gentleman’s character.

“Hmph!”

The young girl snorted and glanced at the Demon Scale Tiger. Suddenly her slim silhouette lurched towards Du Shaofu and at the same time an invisible energy gathered on her palm. Capture the king first for she’s not the Demon Scale Tiger’s opponent thus she can only capture the boy.

Du Shaofu’s eyebrow rose when he felt the oppression that came from the invisible energy, instantly bright runes swirled around him, and his palm shot out Raging Storm Waves Palm to the front.

In an instant, a volatile energy appeared, rushed forward and collided with the young girl’s handprint.

Bang!

Midair collision, palm against palm. The aftershock scraped off a layer of earth as bushes and trees were cut into halves. The girl's silhouette flew back as fresh blood trickled down her lips, her body landed heavily on the ground.

Roar!

Demon Scale Tiger growled his paw big as a boulder dropped on the young girl from above. If the paw strike down on the slender figure, will turn into meat paste without a doubt.

"Xiao Hu[1] stop!"

Du Shaofu shouted, feeling something's not right. This woman is stronger than him but just now she was actually at a disadvantage, evidently she was injured heavily.

The moment the Demon Scale Tiger heard his voice, its paw immediately moved away, and Du Shaofu walked up to the young girl's side; her eyes were closed, she actually lost consciousness.

Night. In the silent forest, the ivory moon hung above brightly, shining down on the forest and mottled moonlight dots the forest ground through the gaps of dense foliage.

"Her injury's not light; the claw marks on her back's probably caused by Wicked beasts."

Du Shaofu looked at the unconscious girl lying on the boulder. He found wounds caused by Wicked beasts on her. The wounds although aren't deep but quite severe.

Note:

Xiao Hu-Little Tiger

Chapter 42: A True Gentleman

Hesitated for a moment, Du Shaofu laid her down on a boulder, face faced down, and then he pulled down her dress slightly to spread some healing medicine on her back.

All these stuff came from the White Panther Hunting Group's people. As beast hunters, they would keep some healing medicines with them thus Du Shaofu took some for contingency; he didn't expect it will be used on this woman.

At first, he searched for this woman to pay her back for trying to rob him but it never crosses his mind that she would faint like this, caused him to be at a complete loss on what to do.

If he were to abandon her, she surely will be taken as food for the passing wicked beasts or worse if she was stumbled upon by passing beast hunters or mercenaries, she'll probably end up worse. If such a beautiful woman were found by those beast hunters or mercenaries that entered Wild Beast Mountains for months without seeing a woman, what will happen at that time is obvious to anyone.

Looking at the girl's white jade skin, Du Shaofu kept thinking in his heart while spreading medicine on the girl's back, what a kind-hearted gentleman I am, probably can't find men like me.

"How come there's another wound!"

After he had finished with the medicine on her back, suddenly he noticed there were some bloodstains on the girl's thigh, dripped down from the tightly wrapped plum buttocks, which meant the wound there quite deep. Moreover, it's on the butt.

"A good deed must be complete."

In Du Shaofu's mind, he's so kind, not only he did not abandon the woman, he even helped her to put on medicine. His brows wrinkled for a moment then he took out a dagger that he plundered from the White Panther Hunting Group, very passionately he cut out a palm-sized hole; and revealed part of a well-shaped butt that strangely seemed able to hook out one's soul.

Unconsciously, Du Shaofu's heart skipped a beat, mesmerized by the exposed skin, only managed to regain his focus when he noticed there was a two finger wide wound on it. His fingers moved quickly as he covered the wound with healing ointment.

However, his eyes furtively glanced at the rounded butt, especially where it elongates into the thigh creating an extremely beautiful arc. As he continued to glance furtively, his heart seemed to be on fire.

However, he was done and cleaned up; he saw the whole palm-sized skin area was entirely covered with ointment instead of just two fingers width area.

This way is safer, and it is good for the wound.

He said to himself in his heart, medicine of course is better to put on a little bit more. Looking at his handiwork, Du Shaofu couldn't resist, "But, it's very firm and very smooth..."

"Eii, why is my nose bleeding?"

While his eyes couldn't move away from the smooth rounded buttocks, he wanted to check whether the other 'thigh' had any wounds when he noticed blood flowed from his nose; only then he gave up on his earlier intention.

In the end, Du Shaofu took out a clean robe and covered the young girl's hip; even the robe is something he got from the White Panther Hunting Group, for he feared he would need to cover himself in left and vines again. And now it's given to this woman.

After things had settled down, he glanced at the young girl, and a tiny evil smirk curled up at the corner of his lips, he retreated to rest after he searched the young girl's body.

A silent morning, mists and fogs blanket the forest; surreal, a soft and subtle atmosphere.

“You little thief, what did you do to me. I want to kill you!”

A shrill scream cuts through the peaceful forest morning. Don't know when the young girl had already wake up, touching one side of her rounded butt. Her expression was extremely dangerous, then without warning, she lunged at Du Shaofu who was resting with his eyes closed. However, the young girl seemed to have no strength.

Du Shaofu seemed prepared as he quickly jumped away and retreated, at the same time he yelled out: “Miss, your wound is exposed.”

She immediately stopped when she heard that, only then she noticed when she lunged at him, behind's open wound was exposed...

Roar!

The Demon Scale Tiger appeared suddenly, and Du Shaofu leaped up on its back; it flapped its wings and flew away.

Let's not say whether the young girl had the strength to chase; she didn't have the time. And when she wanted to take out her Universal Storage Pouch that she found out her storage bag already flew away. Even some small odd items are missing.

“Little thief, don't ever let me see you again. If I ever see you, I swear I will tear you into thousands pieces!”

“This woman change so fast, really not suitable for a maid. Next time should not be nosy anymore.”

In midair, Du Shaofu involuntarily shivered when he heard the shrill scream behind him. A faint smile etched on his face, and there was a storage bag in his hand. “Luckily I didn't suffer losses; the feel of that is really wonderful...”

The green mountain range grows in layers akin to the waves that surged magnificently.

Ao ao!

Roars of beasts resounded through the forest in a thundering manner, caused tension to fill the air.

Within the forest where a steep mountain is located, a group consists of young

girls and boys banded together; most of their faces were pale white and fear apparent between their eyes. Each one of them gripped the weapon in hand tightly, eyes warily looking at the dozen of Lightning Leopard surrounding them.

This group is in their teens, mostly seventeen to eighteen-year-old. The leader was a girl with fair skin and delicate face, young but someone that will grow up beautiful and slender.

Her eyes were solemn as her gaze fixed on ten Lightning Leopards, although none were Xiantian level the leader clearly has touched the border of Xiantian cultivation, and it's hard to deal with it just depending on the few of them.

"Zijin, what do we do now. We got separated from the Elders and we can't deal with this pack of Lightning Leopards. There are too many of them!" A young man older than the young girl said with a frightened face.

"We can only fight; hope Elders would be able to rush here to rescue us."

The delicate face revealed a sharp edge, her dark-colored long skirt added some charm and maturity to her as it wrapped around her attractive curves. "I will handle the Lightning Leopard leader; you guys handle the rest."

Ao ao!

Just when the young girl finished her sentence, the pack of Lightning Leopard resumed their attacks. The reason Lightning Leopards are called lightning leopards is due to their speed that is quick as lightning.

"Fight!"

The teens rushed out, swinging their weapons at the Lightning Leopards, however, each one of their cultivation is below Xiantian, to face against so many Lightning Leopard is an arduous battle.

The young girl cracked a long whip attached with numerous hooks; xuanqi rippled as the whip shot out like electric that ignored space barrier, directly landed on the Lightning Leopard leader.

Ao!

The Lightning Leopard's speed is even faster than the young girl. The Lightning Leopard emitted a bloody and fierce atmosphere and evaded the young girl's

whip; its vicious eyes fixed on the young girl as it leaped towards her; with sharp claws akin to hooks, appeared in front of the young girl.

In a split second, the young girl broke out explosive power. Her foot tapped the ground and an early Xiantian breath fluctuated, the long whip in her hand moved like a real-life snake wrapped around the Lightning Leopard.

Fierceness flashed across the Lightning Leopard's eyes, bright light surged around its body that's the size of a baby elephant, and once again it dodged another attack. The long whip strike on a boulder, pieces of stone flew out as the boulder split in half.

The girl retreated, the long whip in her hand cracked out again; can be seen the young girl is not ordinary from her attacks.

Roar!

The Lightning Leopard roared in anger being blocked again and again. It clawed out, and its sharp claws hooked onto the long whip and withheld it under its paw. The razor-sharp hooks on the whip that could split a boulder but it was nothing against the Lightning Leopard's paw. Instead, the long whip was caught, and the Lightning Leopard pulled the long whip.

Deng! Deng!

It didn't cross the girl's mind the Lightning Leopard's would be so strong, and a moment's carelessness she staggered awkwardly forward to a huge boulder from the pull, having no choice, she immediately released her grip on the long whip.

Ao!

The Lightning Leopard took this opportunity and dashed towards the young girl with lightning speed; its teeth glistened evilly as its mouth wide opened, emanating scent of blood.

She's still just a young girl after all, although she's an early Xiantian warrior and an elite amongst her peer, however, when everything changes so fast, her speed is affected.

Bang!

A young man stood between the young girl and the Lightning Leopard. Xuanqi surged around him as he punched at the Lightning Leopard's lower jaw, a small blast rang out, and the Lightning Leopard flew back towards a boulder. The boulder crumbled into pieces from the force when the Lightning Leopard landed on it.

Ao ao!

The Lightning Leopard roared shrilly; beast blood streamed down from its lower jaw. It struggled to turn around wanting to run but the young man appeared once again, blocking its way with incomprehensible speed, and another fist fell heavily on the Lightning Leopard's temple.

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TooLate

From doswap

